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Warning to pre-empt missile deployment

Israel may raid Saudi Arabia

TEL AVIV, March 20. (Agencies): A senior Israeli official was quoted today as hinting Israel might act to pre-empt the deployment by Saudi Arabia of new Chinese-made medium-range missiles.

"Israel has acquired a reputation of not waiting until a potential danger becomes actual," the Jerusalem Post quoted Yossi Ben Aharon, director-general of the prime minister's office, as saying in Los Angeles.

The United States expressed concern on Friday at the acquisition by Saudi Arabia of Chinese CSS-2 surface-to-surface missiles, capable of carrying nuclear warheads up to 2,200 miles (3,500 km), enough to hit any part of Israeli territory.

had yet to be deployed.

The Jerusalem Post said US officials told Shamir the missiles had already been deployed.

Energy Minister Moshe Shaleh criticised Ben Aharon at a cabinet meeting for speaking publicly about the possibility that Israel might destroy the Saudi missiles, accusing him of a breach of national security, Israel Radio said.

It quoted a senior official in the prime minister's office as saying Ben Aharon's warning was also aimed at Iraq, which has fired dozens of medium-range missiles at Iranian cities in the last month.

Tested

In the past, Israel carried out several pre-emptive strikes against Arab countries.

Israel in 1981 bombed a nuclear reactor under construction near Baghdad, where it said Iraq planned to make nuclear bombs.

The following year, Israel destroyed Syrian missiles deployed in Lebanon's Bekaa valley.

In 1985, Israeli jets flew a long-range mission to bomb PLO headquarters in Tunis.

Foreign press reports say Israel has developed and tested a nuclear-capable Jericho-2 missile.

Israeli newspapers said Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir warned US leaders during talks in Washington last week that the missiles must be removed immediately.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters both China and Saudi Arabia had assured the United States that nuclear tips were not planned for the missiles, which he said

First Israeli casualty in uprising

Soldier shot dead

BETHLEHEM, West Bank, March 20. (Reuters): A soldier was shot dead today in the first killing of an Israeli since the start of a Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, an Army spokesman said.

Moshe Katz, a 28-year-old reservist, was shot twice in the head at close range by an assailant carrying a pistol while soldiers stood guard in Bethlehem on the main street from Jerusalem to Manger Square.

The Palestinian death toll in the 102-day uprising rose to 100 last night when troops fired on a group hurling fire bombs at them in the West Bank village of Kafr Dan near Jenin, killing one of them.

Defy

The shooting of the soldier appeared to defy a ban on firearms imposed by the uprising's self-styled leadership aimed at retaining world sympathy and avoiding massive Israeli retaliation.

The assailant shot the soldier outside the Interior Ministry office in Bethlehem and escaped. Witnesses said the soldier bled profusely from his face.

Troops detained more than 200 Palestinians, pointed guns at their backs and forced them to crouch while lining up along a storefront. They were questioned in groups of a dozen.

"This is a murder that appears to be a very severe incident," Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Dan Shomron told reporters after being briefed by military commanders at the site of the killing.

"And I assume as long as we can succeed in stopping the big, violent demonstrations, and this is what we are doing, naturally there will be more attempts to make use of firearms," he said.

Three Israelis were killed this month in southern Israel during a bus hijacking by three Palestinian commandos who infiltrated from Egypt, but the soldier was the first Israeli killed in the unrest in the occupied territories.

Previous attacks with firearms, including guns, hand grenades and a roadside bomb, had failed.

Shomron and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin toured Beth-



Two Israeli soldiers give assistance to Moshe Katz, another soldier, a short while after he was shot in the head. (Reuters wirephoto)

PLO hopes to delay mission closure

UNITED NATIONS, March 20. (Reuters): The PLO, under US orders to shut its UN mission tomorrow, hopes to delay the closure through legal manoeuvres. Arab officials said today.

UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who protested that the order violated a signed agreement between the world body and the United States, has been urged by opponents of the closure to raise the matter in the US Federal Court.

But Clovis Maksoud, UN representative of the Arab League, said a likelihood of an appeal by the PLO's lawyers for federal court jurisdiction in the dispute. He told reporters this might win a 24-day suspension of the closure.

Stay

An injunction could then be sought to stay further the enforcement of the 1987 US Anti-terrorism Act, under which the Justice Department has been directed to close the mission by March 21.

Ramsey Clark, a former US attorney general, is advising the PLO, Maksoud said.

The General Assembly, due to resume an emergency debate on the question tomorrow, is expected to adopt a resolution criticising the United States for showing disrespect for the 1947 accord that established UN headquarters in New York.

American authorities then undertook to facilitate the entry and functioning of those invited by the United Nations to take part in its work.

Foreign prisoners

ANKARA, March 20. (Reuters): The number of foreign prisoners and detainees in Turkey reached 1,014 last year, the highest level 1983. Cumhuriyet newspaper said today.

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عراق نے ایک سرحدی شہر خالی کر دیا

ایران عراق میں تین مہینوں کی جنگ جاری

اسرائیل کی طرف سے سوویت عرب پر حملے کی دھمکی

قبضہ علاقے میں ایک اسرائیلی فوجی کو گولی مار کر ہلاک کر دیا گیا

بگ ویش کی بی بی پارلیمنٹ نے حلف اٹھایا

ایماندہ میں امریکہ کے ہم رقص کی تبدیلی

افزادہ شاد گرجہ

WEATHER

FAIR weather with light to moderate northwesterly wind may freshen at times.

State of sea: rough

High water: 2.00 am, 2.00 pm

Low water: 8.00 am, 9.00 pm

Sunrise: 5.51 am

Sunset: 6.00 pm

Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 33°C 91°F

Ahmad: 21°C 70°F

Falaka: 27°C 81°F

Minimum temperature expected: Kuwait: 18°C 64°F

Ahmad: 20°C 68°F

Falaka: 21°C 70°F

Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 83 per cent

Ahmad: 85 per cent

Falaka: 84 per cent

Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 81 per cent

Ahmad: 83 per cent

Falaka: 82 per cent

Iran hits tanker

Heavy fighting on central warfront

BAGHDAD, March 20. (Agencies): Iran and Iraq reported heavy fighting on their central warfront today and shipping sources said an Iranian gunboat attacked a Liberian tanker in the Gulf.

Iran also fired at least one missile at Baghdad as the "war of the cities" entered its fourth week and Iraq said its planes hit five Iranian towns and cities last night and this morning.

A Baghdad military spokesman said the Iraqi Second Army Corps killed 1,200 Iranians, injured many others and took dozens captive in repelling an offensive on the central front. He did not say exactly where the overnight clash took place.

Rockets

Regional shipping sources said Iranian gunboats fired several rockets at the 84,631-tonne Hong Kong-owned Atlantic Peace today, a day after Iraqi set two ships ablaze at Iran's Kharg Island terminal in the northern Gulf.

Reporters in a helicopter counted eight rocket holes in the starboard side. Shipping sources said a small fire had been put out and no one was reported hurt.

The rockets hit the crew quarters, tanks and fuel of the vessel, which was in ballast, the reporters said. They said crewmen were working radio antennae which appeared damaged.

The vessel did not broadcast a distress message when it was attacked 10 miles northeast of Sharjah. The reporters were the first to identify it as it headed at full speed for the UAE port of Dubai.

Shipping sources said the vessel had shown no sign of needing help from tugs racing to the scene.

Several miles southwest of the stricken ship, a British destroyer, HMS Exeter, escorted two tankers away from the Strait of Hormuz, the reporters said.

They were the 259,596 Panama-flag supertanker World Harmony, which appeared to have a load of oil, and the 127,778-tonne UK-flagged British Skill, which appeared to be in ballast.

Iraq reported air raids on the western Iranian cities of Dezful and Bakhtrahan. Iraq said an undisclosed number of civilians were killed.

An Iraqi military spokesman said an Iranian missile exploded in Baghdad just after midnight, killing or wounding civilians.

The Iranian news agency Irna, said two missiles were fired to retaliate for two Iraqi missiles which hit Tehran last night.

Basra

Irna said Revolutionary Guards fired 11 rockets at economic and military installations in the southern Iraqi city of Basra this morning while artillery pounded seven towns causing heavy casualties and losses.

Iran's chief spokesman, Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, told Iranian television he was not optimistic about the outcome of forthcoming talks between Iran and Iraq and UN chief Javier Perez de Cuellar.

"The arrogance of the West and the East as well as Zionism and (Arab) reaction does not want the war to end in a just way so that Iran can gain its rights," Irna quoted him as saying.

15 more die in avalanches

SRINAGAR, March 20. (Reuters): Avalanches have killed 15 people on the strategic Siachen glacier disputed by Pakistan and India, police sources said today.

The disaster brings the death toll from 11 days of bad weather in Jammu and Kashmir state to 276.

The sources said the avalanches were the first reported disasters on the glaciers, which rises 6,000 metres (19,000 feet) and straddles the frontline between Indian and Pakistani-controlled sectors of the disputed state.

Most incidents in the last few days, including earlier avalanches caused by heavy rain and snow, were reported to have taken place in Kargil district near the state's north-east border with China.

The sources declined to say whether the 15 dead were Indian soldiers stationed on the ice, the scene of intermittent clashes between troops from both sides.

Meanwhile, government officials said rescuers using Army helicopters today rescued 18 people from a village hit by an avalanche. Another 70 of the villagers are believed to have died after being buried by falling snow.

The officials say snow-storms in other affected areas are making rescue work difficult. Medicines and food are being air-dropped to the worst-affected districts.

A caravan of 13 persons which tried to cross on foot the snow-bound Lowari valley in Chitral district of Pakistan's mountainous north region is feared to have perished in a massive avalanche close to the Lowari tunnel, according to reports received in Islamabad, Pakistan.

Support Palestinians, urges Pirzada

AMMAN, March 20. (Agencies): The secretary-general of the Organisation of Islamic Conference today urged the world community to support Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories "morally and financially."

Sharifuddin Pirzada, spoke on the eve of an annual meeting of OIC foreign ministers in Amman.

The violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, along with the 7-1/2-year-old war, are expected to dominate the agenda at the meeting that begins tomorrow.

The official Jordan news agency said Pirzada "expressed his concern on the future of Palestinians and their heritage in light of the Israeli oppressive measures against the people."

It also said that Pirzada reaffirmed the "necessity of guaranteeing Palestinians the right to self-determination" in their homeland.

"The international community should support, at least morally and financially, Palestinians' steadfastness especially in the tough period of the popular uprising," he said.

Argued

Pirzada was referring to the violent Palestinian protests against Israeli occupation that have raged in the West Bank and Gaza since Dec 9.

Arab and other Islamic countries have expressed support for the "uprising" in the occupied territories. Pirzada's statement indicated that the conference would renew calls for support.

Muslim minorities in Bulgaria and the Philippines will try to use the OIC conference as a platform to press their demands.

A political source said Bulgarian Vice-President Petar Tanchev argued his country's case during a visit to Jordan last month, drawing a private protest from the Turkish embassy.

The Philippines government has also mounted a diplomatic campaign to prevent Muslim rebels seeking autonomy in southern islands of the Philippines from winning full OIC membership.

The Moro National Liberation Front says it has collected one million signatures to back its application to join the pan-Islamic group, where it has had observer status since 1974.

US sticking to Mideast peace talks timetable

AMMAN, March 20. (Reuters): US envoy Philip Habib arrived for talks with Jordan's King Hussein today after saying Washington was sticking to its proposed timetable for Middle East peace talks.

A Jordanian official, who declined to be named, said the King would not give Jordan's formal reply to the US peace plan to Habib, a Middle East specialist in the State Department.

"It's still too early," the official said.

Habib arrived from Cairo where he discussed the US initiative with Egyptian President Mubarak.

"There are very clear time factors involved and we are pursuing it with all the attention and seriousness that the problem of making peace in this part of the world deserves," Habib told reporters.

Indicated

The US proposals call for an international conference next month, but Habib indicated no dates had been fixed. "I am not going to predict a particular event happening at particular moments," he said after an hour of talks with Mubarak.

Habib said Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who discussed the peace plan in Washington last week, had not rejected it, as his public comments often appear to indicate.

Dhaka MPs sworn in

DHAKA, March 20. (Reuters): Bangladesh's new parliament was sworn in today amid reports the government was seeking talks to end political deadlock with the opposition.

"I urge the opposition leaders to discard negative political attitudes and decide what is good and what is bad for the nation," President Hossain Mohammad Ershad told a meeting of senior police officers yesterday.

Government sources said Ershad was expected to name a new cabinet before Thursday.

Ershad, a former general who re-established civilian rule in Nov 1986 after four years of martial law, has refused opposition demands to quit under pressure.

Government emissaries were having secret contacts with the opposition leaders trying to hold peace talks, a senior official of Ershad's ruling Jatiya Party said.

"To appease the implacable opposition the President is already contemplating opening a dialogue with the opposition on central national issues," the official said.

Security was tight around the sprawling Sangsad Bhavan (parliament house) as speaker Shamsul Huda Chowdhury administered the oath of office to the MPs.

Court upholds sentence for molesting maid

KUWAIT'S Higher Appeal Court upheld the Criminal Court's decision to sentence Jasmin M. and his uncle Hamad A. to 10 years imprisonment with hard labour for kidnapping and molesting an Asian maid.

According to testimony given in court the two defendants stopped their car near the Sheraton Hotel where the victim and her friends were standing. The defendants asked the ladies to show their identity cards, claiming to be officials, when the victim failed to show her card they told her that she will have to accompany them to her employer's residence.

One of the woman's friends took the registration of the car and telephoned her employer, who rushed to the police station and told them what had happened.

The two women were later arrested by the police and admitted to kidnapping and molesting the woman in the desert.

The maid said the men took her to the desert in the Jahra area where they molested her and then left her in the Salwa area.

Rebels rap Soviet decision to pull out

ISLAMABAD, March 20. (Agencies): Afghan guerrillas today denounced Moscow's offer to withdraw from Afghanistan as a means of pressuring Washington and its ally Pakistan into a peace settlement.

The Soviet Union said last week it would pull its 115,000 troops out of Afghanistan with or without a UN-mediated agreement in Geneva.

Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, who was elected leader last week of the seven-party guerrilla alliance, called the statement "a pressure tactic to get the Geneva agreement signed on Soviet terms."

Stalled

He said the rebels would continue to attack Soviet soldiers during a withdrawal unless a guerrilla government was installed in Kabul.

"Without the acceptance of a mujahideen government no agreement can be implemented inside Afghanistan," he said.

Afghan president Najibullah indicated yesterday he intends to remain in power during the transitional period of the withdrawal of Soviet troops.

The Geneva talks stalled last week over a US demand that Moscow stop military aid to Kabul in return for an end to US supplies to the guerrillas, and a Pakistani demand for a neutral interim government in Afghanistan.

Speed

US Secretary of State George Shultz said he hoped talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze on Tuesday in Washington would help break the Geneva logjam.

In Amman, political sources said that Jordan, at Moscow's request, has interceded with Pakistan to try to speed agreement on a Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan.

They said Soviet leaders asked King Hussein during a visit to Moscow in December to try to persuade Pakistan to ease its demand for a transitional government in Kabul before a Soviet troop withdrawal.

14 injured in Athens blast

ATHENS, March 20. (AP): Explosives experts today combed through wreckage in a bar where a bomb blast left 14 injured, including four American servicemen.

A police spokesman said fragments of a timing device were found among the debris in Oscar's Bar in the seaside suburb of Glyfada, indicating the bomb went off as planned yesterday.

The blast smashed windows and collapsed the bar's wooden ceiling but caused no serious injuries. Around 25 people — Greeks, British and Americans — were drinking there when the bomb went off.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the explosion. Panayotis Papoulas, owner of Oscar's Bar, a well-known meeting-place for Americans from the nearby Hellenikon base, said he hadn't received any warning or threats of an attack.

INTERNATIONAL

Noriega rejects US offer to leave Panama

PANAMA CITY, March 20. (Reuters): Military strongman General Manuel Antonio Noriega, facing spreading popular calls for his removal, has rejected a US plan to solve Panama's political crisis, according to an armed forces communiqué.

The statement from the Panama defence forces yesterday said Noriega met on Friday with two US State Department officials to discuss the proposal, which he dismissed as "unacceptable and anti-Panamanian."

However, Noriega left open the door to further talks with the US officials which he said must "resolve national problems without conditions and take the interests of all Panamanians into account."

Attempt
Reagan administration officials identified the two negotiators as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State William Walker and Michael Kozak, a department legal adviser.

Noriega, who commands the 16,000-strong defence forces, put down a coup attempt on Wednesday by senior officers inside the military command headquarters in Panama City.

The armed forces afterwards announced a purge of the military high command, arresting five officers accused of instigating the aborted coup and

forcibly retiring five more. The coup attempt sparked a day of violent rioting by government workers and others clamouring for Noriega's removal.

The government responded by putting Army troops on street patrol. On Friday, it declared a state of emergency with a decree which could suspend a wide range of civil rights.

With the removal of seditious Army officers, and troops in the streets to quell further public disturbances, Noriega appeared ready to ignore calls for his departure.

"Above all, Noriega is a pragmatist. He may see himself as being forced out, but I don't think he is quite ready to leave," one political observer said.

Charges
The United States has been trying to oust Noriega since Feb 5, when two Florida grand juries indicted him on charges of drug trafficking and racketeering.

A television news report from Washington said Noriega had driven a hard bargain in his talks with the US officials, asking that the drug charges against him be dropped and that he be allowed to stay in Panama.

Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez said Spain would grant Noriega political asylum if he were to relinquish power.

Chun's brother returns

SEOUL, March 20. (Reuters): A brother of former President Chun Doo Hwan, accused of graft by the local media and opposition, returned to South Korea today after a two-day mystery trip to Japan, airport officials said.

Chun Kyong-Hwan, younger brother of the ex-president, emerged from a Korean Air Lines flight from Osaka to the southern port city of Pusan and drove away, they said.

His secret departure on Friday had touched off speculation that he might try to evade an inquiry into alleged irregularities.

Government sources said prosecutors were expected to summon the ex-president's brother in the near future. Investigators have already begun reviewing documents of a state-backed organisation once led by him.

Forcing
Newspapers, which widely urged President Roh Tae-Woo to distance himself from Chun Doo Hwan, recently campaigned against Saemaul, the officially sponsored rural movement headed by Chun's brother. They said it cajoled companies and state agencies to donate funds, forcing people to sell land for under half its value.

Sri Lankan troops move into Sinhalese villages in East

COLOMBO, March 20. (Reuters): Hundreds of Sri Lankan troops moved into parts of the island's East at the weekend to prevent attacks on Sinhalese by Tamil separatist guerrillas.

"We expect more troops from Colombo next week," a senior military official in the East said by telephone today.

Up to 2,500 soldiers had deployed in Sinhalese villages in the past two days, he said.

Deployment
The deployment follows a string of killings, mostly of Sinhalese, in the eastern district of Trincomalee this month by Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) guerrillas.

Sinhalese form the majority community nationally but are a minority in the East, where there are sizeable communities of

Muslims and Tamils.

The troop deployment was decided in talks between Sri Lankan and Indian officials in New Delhi last week.

The decision reverses a stipulation of an Indo-Sri Lankan peace accord that confined Sri Lankan troops to barracks and assigned peacekeeping to Indian soldiers and police.

The troops are reinforcing a smaller Sri Lankan deployment in February and will coordinate with Indian peacekeeping troops.

The Indian force has grown to 50,000 since the accord, aimed at ending five years of Tamil separatist violence, was signed in July.

The Tigers, the most powerful rebel group, rejected the accord and want a separate state in the

North and East.

Sirima Bandaranaike, leader of the main opposition Freedom Party, said today that after eight months in Sri Lanka Indian troops had still not succeeded in keeping the peace in Trincomalee, which was not a big area to control.

"More and more people are getting killed and more are being driven from their homes. In the last ten days alone there has been a lot of violence."

Prevent
Trincomalee officials told reporters last week that the Tigers had launched the attacks to undermine a refugee resettlement programme.

"This is being done by the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) to drive out the people (Sinhalese) who are living

in the East and also to prevent the refugees from returning to their homes there," Sri Lankan government Minister Gamini Dissanayake said yesterday.

Two Muslims were killed by suspected Tiger rebels yesterday in the mainly-Muslim village of Muttur in Trincomalee and the authorities imposed a curfew to prevent further violence, officials said.

In the northern Jaffna peninsula, LTTE guerrillas set fire to two buses yesterday which they said defied a strike launched by the Tigers to back demands for peace talks, the island newspaper reported.

"Shops have been shuttered, most schools and government offices closed and little transport available during the strike, which lasted from Tuesday to Saturday, residents said."

Bush likely to capture Puerto Rican delegates

Dukakis wins in Kansas

WASHINGTON, March 20. (AP): Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis captured the Kansas caucuses yesterday while Richard Gephardt won a major share of the national delegates in South Dakota.

With 115 of the Kansas caucuses reporting their results, Dukakis had 278 delegates, Jesse Jackson 235, Sen. Albert Gore Jr. 125 and Gephardt 12. Another 100 local delegates had been elected in uncommitted status.

Among Republicans, front-runner George Bush was expected to capture the 14 delegates at stake in the winner-take-all primary in Puerto Rico today.

No Democrats turned out in Greeley and Wichita counties in

far western Kansas, reducing the number of caucus sites from 117 to 115 and the number of local delegates selected from 768 to 764.

Hopelists
"It's terrific," Dukakis said at a Democrats' dinner in Detroit, where all the Democratic hopefuls except Jackson gathered last night. "We've had a major victory in Kansas and feel good about it. Now we're on to Michigan and here we are."

Asked about the significance of the Kansas victory, Dukakis said: "I think it's the first farm and agriculture state that I've won and won decisively. I think that's a very good sign for the future."

Rep. Gephardt of Missouri,

speaking at the same Detroit dinner, said he wasn't really concerned about Kansas and that his campaign's focus has been on Michigan for the last couple of weeks.

"I'm concerned about doing well in Michigan and I think we will," Gephardt said.

Contest
Michigan holds caucuses next Saturday to decide 138 delegates.

Gore, who also was campaigning in Michigan, said the Kansas race "looks like... a contest that's going to be divided up between the three front-runners. We expect to get our share of delegates in Kansas. I'm very pleased with the results as they're coming in."

Honduran jets raid Nicaragua

MANAGUA, March 20. (Agencies): Honduran warplanes bombed Nicaraguan positions yesterday in the Bocay region about five miles (eight kilometres) inside Nicaragua, the Defence Ministry said.

A ministry statement said that two American-made F-5 jets staged a 10-minute attack at 2:35 pm (2035 GMT) in the Bocay area about 64 miles (80 kilometres) northeast of Managua. The planes dropped four bombs, but there was no damage, the statement said.

Incursions
The ministry also said two F-5 warplanes flew over Sandinista positions in the frontier sectors of Mukuwas, San Andres de Bocay, Waniwas and Wayawas between 8 am and 8:35 am (1400 GMT and 1435 GMT). The planes flew up to seven miles (12

kilometres) inside Nicaraguan airspace during the morning sortie, the statement said.

Both incursions were repelled by Sandinista anti-aircraft fire, the ministry said.

Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto sent a protest note to Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez.

Honduran President Jose Azcona Hoyo would neither confirm nor deny the attack in a telephone interview yesterday.

But the Honduran government confirmed last night that two Honduran Air Force F-5s staged a strike in the Bocay region, but said the attacks occurred inside Honduran territory and were meant to pressure remaining Nicaraguan troops inside Honduras to leave the country.

"The action was ordered by

the high command, which remains in emergency session, with the aim of forcing the immediate withdrawal of the Nicaraguan troops from our soil," said one Honduran military intelligence source who asked not to be identified.

Honduran officials said the attacks occurred before 3:00 pm (4:00 pm EST).

Earlier yesterday, the Honduran government said it sent several thousand troops into the Bocay region to rout Sandinista troops it said remained on the Honduran side of the border.

D'Escoto's protest note said the raids justified President Daniel Ortega's appeal earlier yesterday to the International Court of Justice for an injunction preventing military activities that could "raise tension" between Honduras and Nicaragua.



Aquino won't seek second term

MANILA, March 20. (Agencies): Philippine President Corason Aquino today dismissed suggestions she might seek re-election in 1992 even if there was a strong clamour for her to run again.

"I really have no political ambitions... one term is all it would be," Aquino said in a taped radio phone-in programme scheduled for broadcast late last night.

Aquino ran against then President Ferdinand Marcos in a January 1986 snap election only after supporters gathered one million signatures from ordinary Filipinos urging her to run. Marcos was overthrown two weeks later in a popular revolt sparked by poll frauds.

Transition
She rejected the idea of another popular draft for her, saying: "Those times (1986) were different."

She said she ran in 1986 only because Marcos' rule had to be ended and added she was only good as a transition president while the country moved from dictatorship to democracy.

Aquino also called on all victims of human rights abuses whether by soldiers or communist rebels to come out and file formal complaints, and said the future of US bases in her country would be decided according to the good of Filipinos.

She said victims of human rights abuses should report their cases to the government's commission on human rights instead of "just (airing) their grievances in the media."

Aquino's appeal came a week after the London-based Amnesty International accused the military and government-backed vigilante groups of atrocities against suspected rebels.

Aquino did not say what position her government would take in negotiations with the United States starting on April 5 on the future of the US bases. The treaty allowing Americans use of Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base near Manila ends in 1991.

"You can rest assured that the first consideration that will always be in our mind is the national interest, what will be good for our nation and people," she said.

Military chief general Renato De Villa has asked Aquino for a 24 per cent increase in the armed forces' \$35 million dollar budget to bolster its capability to combat communist rebels.

Woman dies in mosque collapse

HERZLIYA, Israel, March 20. (Reuters): A 70-year-old Israeli Arab woman caretaker was killed and a three-year-old child seriously hurt when the minaret of a cliff-top mosque collapsed in the coastal town of Herzliya today, witnesses said.

The minaret of the Sidni Ali Mosque, damaged in the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, fell down during a thunder storm. Two other members of the caretaker's family, who had lived in the mosque for 15 years, were injured.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Antiquities

LONDON, March 20. (Reuters): London's Victoria and Albert Museum is trying to improve its handling of antiquities after a 500-year-old Chinese statue was decapitated.

The life-sized statue of a Korean envoy to the Imperial Court in Peking survived the centuries virtually unharmed until museum workmen tried to lift it on to a trolley last October, according to the Observer news paper.

Election defeat

SYDNEY, March 20. (Reuters): Prime Minister Bob Hawke is considering policy changes after his Australian Labour Party lost control of its New South Wales stronghold yesterday.

"We must not pay..." Hawke said today after the Liberal and National Party coalition trounced the ruling party in the state election.

Candidate named

MUKHTARA, Lebanon, March 20. (Reuters): Lebanon's Druze chieftain Walid Jumblatt today named Antoine Ashkar, a Maronite Christian, as his party's candidate for President.

Ashkar, in his 50s, is a politico member of Jumblatt's mainly-Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), and one of a handful of Maronites with the leftist, Syrian-backed party.

Ex-world leaders

HARARE, March 20. (Reuters): An exclusive club of once-powerful world leaders opened a conference on African problems today with a pessimistic survey of events in South Africa.

The interaction council, made up mostly of retired statesmen, was told by Commonwealth Secretary-General Shridath Ramphal that "South Africa has made these developments everybody's business."

Discrimination

VATICAN CITY, March 20. (Reuters): Pope John Paul II condemned racial discrimination today as a plague that must be eliminated because it was contrary to the will of God.

The Pontiff, addressing pilgrims in St Peter's Square, was speaking on the subject to mark a United Nations day against racial discrimination tomorrow.

Shevardnadze

MOSCOW, March 20. (AP): Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze left Moscow today for a meeting with President Reagan and other officials in Washington on cutting long-range missiles.

Shevardnadze is also to discuss other regional conflicts as well as participate in the opening of a "risk reduction centre" to improve communications between the superpowers.

Shevardnadze's departure was announced in a brief statement by the Tass news agency.

Union with Armenia

MOSCOW, March 20. (AP): Communist leaders in a disputed region of the Caucasus mountains have retired the No. 2 party official and called again for Union with Armenia.

The decisions of the party committee in the Nagorno-Karabakh autonomous region, part of Soviet Azerbaijan since 1923, were reported in the area's newspaper, a copy of which was obtained yesterday in Moscow.

UK wanted me to defect, says Philby

LONDON, March 20. (AP): Harold "Kim" Philby, the British intelligence officer who became a double agent and spied for the Soviet Union, was reported today as saying that British security chiefs allowed him to flee in 1963 to save the embarrassment of a sensational trial.

Philby was quoted by the Sunday Times in a Moscow interview as saying that when British security discovered he was a spy, an agent of the British MI5 counter-espionage service visited him in Beirut where he worked as a correspondent for the London Sunday newspaper, the Observer, and the Economist weekly magazine.

Philby alleged that MI5 would have known he was shortly to return to Britain, but instead of waiting for him and arresting him when he got there they sent out the agent to make an offer of immunity.

He disappeared in January 1963, and the following July, the Soviet press said he had been granted political asylum.

Philby, now 76, was a member of the spy ring that included Anthony Blunt, Guy Burgess and Donald MacLean.

Burgess and MacLean fled to Moscow in 1951. Blunt, art adviser to Queen Elizabeth II, was stripped of his knighthood in 1979 but never prosecuted in return for telling the security services all he knew. Blunt, Burgess and MacLean are dead.

Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.

Cabinet decides to expedite medical aid to Sudan

Meeting of OIC secretariat to be held in Kuwait in April

THE Kuwaiti cabinet yesterday discussed the forthcoming meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Conference's secretariat scheduled for April 11-12 in Kuwait, State Minister for Cabinet Affairs, Rashid Al Rashid said.

HH the Amir, in his capacity as current chairman of the OIC, had sent invitations to chairmen of permanent committees and deputies to the OIC chairman, namely Moroccan monarch King Hassan II and the presidents of Maldives, Turkey, Pakistan and Gabon and the Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman, to attend, he added.

Al Rashid noted that the conference will review progress of joint Islamic march in the past period and various obstacles facing it and means of settling them.

GCC council
Discussions will be held on how to implement the resolutions taken at the fifth Islamic summit held last year.

Al Rashid noted that upon directives of the Amir, the cabinet decided to expedite urgent medical aid, including various materials and vaccines,

to Sudan to help contain meningitis and prevent spread of that disease there.

The cabinet ministers then listened to a report from State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saoud Mohammed Al Osaimi on the outcome of the 26th session of the GCC ministerial council.

Osaimi briefed the cabinet on the exchanges that took place in the last week's conference in Riyadh that were topped by situation in the Gulf, means of ending the Iraq-Iran war in addition to methods of supporting the Palestinian popular uprising in the occupied Arab territories in addition to matters concerning inter-cooperation among the six Gulf Cooperation Council states, Al Rashid went on.

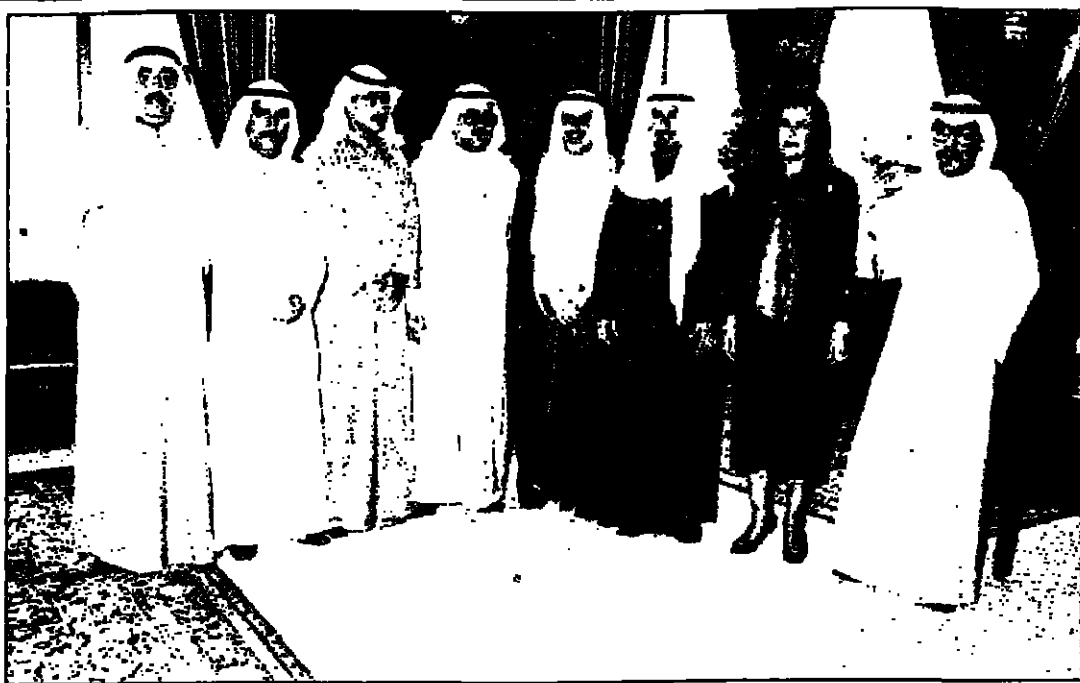
The Council of Ministers was further briefed on the agenda of the preparatory meeting for the Islamic Foreign Ministers conference scheduled to open today in Amman that is topped by the Middle East crisis, the Palestinian question, the Iraq-Iran armed dispute and the Afghan issue in addition to a number of OIC-related administrative and financial affairs, Al Rashid said. He noted that the cabinet mini-

sters expressed hopes that the conference will yield positive results that will help boost Islamic cooperation and solve pan-Islamic problems.

The State Minister said that the cabinet then discussed a number of political reports related to latest developments in the Arab and international arenas and followed international mediation efforts to end the Iraqi-Iranian war and its serious escalation in addition to efforts to back the Palestinian people in restoring legitimate rights.

Reports
Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, Khalid Ahmad Al Jassar read out two reports on his visits to Egypt, where he attended a conference for Islamic Call, and to Malaysia where he attended the inauguration of a grand mosque there, Al Rashid said, adding that the minister briefed the cabinet on outcome of talks with officials in both countries.

Minister of Public Health Dr Abdul Razzak Al Abdul Razzak also briefed the cabinet on discussions with the visiting Irish Health Minister, Al Rashid said, adding that a number of other topics were reviewed.



● HH the Amir yesterday met the chairman and members of the new board of the Kuwait Journalists Association.

New governorate needed

THE setting up of a new governorate was necessary in view of the current circumstances of Hawalli Governorate, according to an opinion poll conducted by a local newspaper.

The director of Farwaniya health area, Dr Sami Matar, said Hawalli had about a million inhabitants and many residential areas and this would eventually require the setting up of a new governorate. He pointed out that the Health and Education Ministries had realised this and had set up a new educational area and a new health area in Farwaniya.

He told the newspaper that the population of Farwaniya was about 400,000, and this resulted in pressure on services.

The population of other governorates did not exceed 300,000 inhabitants, he added.

Coordinate
He suggested dividing Hawalli into two governorates in order to alleviate the pressure on the different services for citizens and expatriates. He added that such a division would help to coordinate work among ministries and speed up transactions of residents.

The director of Hawalli educational area, Abdulla Al Rujaib, said the existing governorates were performing their duties perfectly and extending their services positively to citizens and expatriates.

He said that the setting up of a

new governorate must be studied carefully and the population density of citizens and expatriates in some areas must be taken into account.

He suggested that for the time being new branches of some departments should be set up in areas where there was a tangible population growth in order to meet the requirements of residents properly.

The director of the food and shops licensing department at Kuwait Municipality, Yusuf Al Mailem, said the idea of setting up a new government was a good one and he was looking forward to this particularly in view of the population density in Hawalli Governorate.

Distribute
He recommended a new governorate in Farwaniya, saying this would distribute services and eventually reduce the current problems.

A citizen, Awad Mohammed, said he had been looking forward to the setting up of a fifth governorate for a long time because this would solve many problems facing citizens.

Naeem Hasbe said a new governorate should be established as early as possible because circumstances had changed radically. Hawalli Governorate is suffering from pressure, and this is shown by the traffic congestion and the queues at service departments.

Ibrahim Al Hashem said that the Hawalli Governorate was providing good services and officials were doing their best to serve citizens.

He said it was better to set up a fifth governorate because it would reduce pressure on the Hawalli Governorate and reflect positively on the country's security.

Naief Al Muhanna said establishing a fifth governorate was a good idea and he was certain officials would consider the matter. He said he believed most citizens supported the setting up of a new governorate.

Book on youth care

KUWAIT Foundation for the Advancement of Science has published a book on youth care and the social and sports services being extended to students.

The book, prepared by Fotouh Suleiman Al Jassem, dealt with the present situation of youth care in Kuwait and how it should be, within the framework of an educational plan.

Author of the book believes that this care should be extended after taking into consideration the viewpoints of those in charge of planning for youth care and the experts in implementing plans as well as the viewpoints of those who receive the services.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audience

HH the Amir yesterday received Sheikh Jaber Al Ali.

Amiri cable

HH the Amir sent a cable of congratulations to Tunisian President Zolne El Abdine Ben Ali on the occasion of his country's National Day.

Crown Prince cables

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah sent a cable of congratulations to Tunisian President Zolne El Abdine Ben Ali on the occasion of his country's National Day. Sheikh Saad also sent a similar cable to Tunisian Prime Minister Ali Hedi Al Baccouche.

Sheikh Hamad for London

DOHA, March 20, (Kuna): Qatari Crown Prince and Defence Minister Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani and the accompanying delegation left here today for the United Kingdom on a four-day visit.

Aziz Bin Khalifa Al Thani, State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Ahmad Bin Seif Al Thani and other officials.

Charity society

GENERAL Assembly of Sheikh Abdullah Al Nouri Charity Society met yesterday.

The general assembly was to discuss the society's board of directors financial and administrative report and the final accounts of 1987 fiscal year, in addition to electing new members to the board of directors and several other issues.

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Teachers' role stressed

ANWAR Abdullah Al Nouri, the Education Minister and acting Minister of Higher Education, in a speech delivered at the 2nd meeting of Education Officers at the Training Centre in Jabriya, said there was a sharp difference between the actual performance level of ministry personnel and the findings of a survey conducted recently.

He said the development process required a positive interaction between the present situation and mature insight in resolving problems and promoting the worthwhile aspects of the educational process.

Al Nouri stressed the importance of the teacher's role in ensuring the success of any educational system and emphasised the need for the ministry to utilise all manpower to achieve the goals and objectives of education.

Construction of power plants decreasing

ACCORDING to a book published recently by the statistical control department at Kuwait's Electricity and Water Ministry, the construction of more power generation plants was decreasing with the ministry's expansion of the existing plants, which resulted in a reduction in the amount of power needed to operate and an increase in output.

The book states that this expansion has also increased the thermal efficiency of operation from 24 to 36 per cent in the Shuwaikh and Doha plants and had decreased administrative and maintenance costs.

According to the book the plants use primarily natural gas and other fuel sources which are available in Kuwait.

The book shows a drop in power consumption by

individuals from 11.5 to 6.3 per cent annually, which is attributed to the government's efforts to conserve energy consumption.

Meanwhile, the ministry's registration department director Rajai Al Ibrahim said the department is responsible for 300 letters daily sent to official agencies outside the ministry and about 250 internal letters related to the ministry's work.

Saudi naval official

RIYADH, March 20, (Kuna): The Commander of Saudi naval forces Major General Talal Salim Al Mufdy left here today for an official visit to Pakistan.

The visit, according to Saudi Press Agency, will centre on cooperation between the two states in military fields.



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New round of negotiations begins on Wednesday

GCC, EEC may reach accord soon

By Jadranka Porter

A FRESH round of formal negotiations between the EEC and the GCC begins on Wednesday against the backdrop of a new wave of fierce fighting between Iran and Iraq that some diplomats believe may inject the talks with a new sense of urgency.

Hopes for an early agreement, tentatively to be signed some time this year, are now pinned to a new proposal which extricates the contentious issue of free trade from the framework of a general agreement, according to the West German ambassador to Kuwait, Dr Bernd Wulffen.

Boost

This signals a deep interest to remove obstacles mainly centred on the GCC countries' demand for a greater access to the European market for their refined petrochemical products which if met would hurt the European companies.

The negotiators are expected to pave the way towards a gen-



Dr. Bernd Wulffen

eral accord on political, economic and scientific cooperation with a free trade agreement to follow later, Wulffen said.

Wulffen, whose country is currently presiding over the 12-nation grouping, said that the signing of an agreement at the time when the region is immersed in difficult circumstances would

boost the position of the Gulf states.

"The recent escalation in the hostilities between Iran and Iraq may push the negotiating parties to try harder to reach an agreement shortly," he said.

"The Gulf countries are directly threatened by the war and their appeal for support is legitimate. Kuwait has good relations with the Western countries. It is only natural they should be crowned with an agreement," Wulffen said.

Favoured

During a recent visit to Kuwait by European parliamentarians, HH the Amir said that he strongly favoured the cooperation between the EEC and the GCC, said the envoy.

He recognised the EEC as an important economic power and said that Kuwait would like to maintain close links with the EEC.

From the EEC's point of view the accord would amount to a political statement of support for the countries of the region. "It

will clearly say we accept you as partners," said Wulffen.

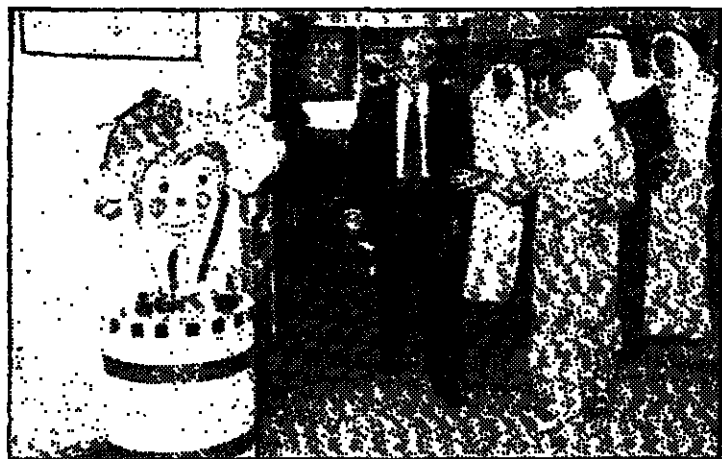
Turning to the Iran-Iraq war he said that recent hopes that the fighting might die down were dashed but the fresh flare-up in the hostilities makes it easier for the Security Council to step up efforts to end the war. "When the fighting dies down there is no urgent need to do something," said Wulffen. He believes a new round of talks between the UN secretary-general and the belligerents to find the way to implement the 598 resolution is in order.

Wulffen did not favour an arms embargo at this point in time.

"We have not implemented the first resolution so how can we talk about the second. Besides there is a danger that the second resolution may annihilate the ceasefire resolution," he said.

West Germany supported resolution 598 but it also urged the UN to formulate a resolution acceptable to both warring sides, he said.

Dental Health Week opens



Dr Abdul Razzak Al Abdul Razzak stops at one of the displays at the Dental Health Exhibition which was opened as part of Kuwait's Dental Health Week.

KUWAIT'S Public Health Minister Dr Abdul Razzak Al Abdul Razzak, in a speech at the opening of the 10th Dental Health Week, said the ministry is planning to extend the work hours of dentists at clinics to avoid long waiting periods for residents.

The minister asserted that dental health services were a high priority for the ministry and

attributed the increase in dental caries to the influence of foreign eating habits and the social system.

Al Abdul Razzak said the ministry has planned a number of seminars to address the problem of dental health and plans to send qualified dentists for further study to increase their professional expertise.

China supports Palestinian struggle

BEIJING, March 20, (Kuna): The Chinese government and the people will, as always, support the Palestinian and Arab people's just struggle against Israeli aggression and expansion, Chinese acting Premier Li Peng said here today.

Speaking at a meeting with a delegation from the seven-nation committee of the Arab League here this morning, Li expressed his indignation at the Israeli authorities' brutal suppression of the Palestinian people in occupied territories. Chinese news agency (Xinhua) reported.

He said China favours the convocation of an international conference on the Middle East issue presided over by the United Nations and hopes for an all-round and fair solution to the Middle East issue as soon as possible.

Li Peng said China, as a permanent member of the UN Security Council, will continue its efforts to support the Palestinian and Arab people's struggle

against Israel's policy of aggression and expansion and for their legitimate national rights and promote the earlier convocation of the international peace conference on the Middle East issue.

Farouq Al Shara, Syrian Foreign Minister and head of the delegation, briefed Li on Palestinian people's struggle against Israeli authorities' suppression. He condemned Israel's policy of aggression and expansion in disregard of the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights.

The Arab delegation arrived here yesterday from Moscow where they held talks with Soviet officials on developments of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab lands.

Import law

AN official of the Kuwait customs department has said that a law prohibits the import of vehicles more than five years old.

He said importers should ensure that vehicle complied with the law before importing them.



Prince Salman (left) with Sheikh Sabah at reception given by the Saudi ambassador (Picture by Mohammed Bedaq).

Sabah hosts banquet for Prince Salman

ACTING Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed yesterday afternoon hosted a lunch banquet at his house, in Bedaa in honour of visiting Saudi Prince Salman Bin Abdul Aziz, the governor of Riyadh region.

The lunch was also attended by a number of sheikhs, ministers, state senior personnel in addition to the two countries' ambassadors.

Later in the day, commander of the National Guards Sheikh Salem Al Ali Al Sabah hosted a dinner banquet in his palace in Qortuba in honour of the Saudi guest.

The Saudi Ambassador to Kuwait Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saderi held a reception party in honour of Prince Salman in Kuwait Regency Palace hotel yesterday evening.

Kuna and Tass chiefs discuss Palestinian uprising

MOSCOW, March 20, (Kuna): The Palestinian popular uprising in the occupied Arab territories and the latest escalation in the Iran-Iraq war were extensively discussed by delegations representing Kuwait, News Agency (Kuna) and the Soviet Tass News Agency today.

Board Chairman and Director General of Kuna, Barges Al Barges called on the Soviet side to participate on a wider scale in covering the developments in the Middle East and to take part in the relief efforts which aim at alleviating the sufferings of the Palestinian people under the Zionist occupation.

Tass Director General Sergiy Lusev has explained the Soviet view toward the uprising emphasising that this revolt has stood as a new fact in the Middle East that has confused the Israeli plans which aim at continuing the occupation of Arab lands.

Damage

Tass director general expressed belief that the uprising will inflict economic damage on Israel that will force the Israeli occupation authorities to allocate a substantial part of the budget for keeping a big number of troops in a state of alert to confront the uprising.

He added that the American-Zionist backing for the Israeli occupation is not of the same size of the past but it is constantly increasing, and pointed out that the recent Mideast tour by US Secretary of State George Shultz has come after the new reality created by the uprising.

The Soviet official expressed belief that the latest US proposals on the Middle East crisis are but a cover for separate deals and are aiming at aborting the uprising.

He doubted that the US would put pressure on Israel because of the influence of the Zionist lobby in Washington in addition to the approaching US presidential elections.

Barges then spoke and pointed out that the uprising does not receive the required support despite the deteriorating situation in the occupied territories as a result of the Israeli practices which are worse than those of the Nazis.

Kuna chairman and director general called for a wider coverage for the uprising through different mass media to acquaint the Soviet people with the reality of what is going on in the occupied territories.

He also called for sending a medical team by the Soviet Red

Cross to the occupied territories. Lusev, from his part, promised to present this demand to the higher Soviet authorities.

The two sides also discussed the dangerous escalation in the Iran-Iraq war and Barges pointed out that Israel is the only beneficiary from the continuation of this war and said many imperialist circles are fuelling that conflict to guarantee the continuation of their interests in Iran and the region.

Relations

The talks were attended from the Kuwaiti side by assistant undersecretary of the Ministry of Communications and member of Kuna's board, Faisal Al Majed, head of the reporters department, Hassan Al Sayegh and director of Kuna office here Khaled Al Tarrah.

From the Soviet side the talks were attended by directors of the computer, engineering, foreign relations and Arabic editorial departments.

The two sides also discussed relations of cooperation between the two agencies and expressed satisfaction over the standard of their present cooperation and the possibility that this cooperation expand to include the Gulf news agencies.

Bahrain to attend Arab summit

MANAMA, March 20, (Kuna): Bahrain today announced that it would attend the extraordinary Arab summit, which was proposed by Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, for reviewing means of boosting the heroic Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab territories.

Bahrain will be the 13th Arab League member who decided to attend the summit following Kuwait, Algeria, Morocco, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Yemen Arab Republic, Syria, Sudan, Libya, Djibouti, Saudi Arabia, PLO and Tunis.

Policeman accused of adultery

A SECURITY source at Kuwait's Interior Ministry said that a policeman, identified only as M.K., had been accused of adultery. The source said the policeman had been dismissed from the security force and was being investigated. The woman, involved, a Kuwaiti, was referred to the Psychiatric Hospital after accusing more than 10 persons of different nationalities of committing adultery with her. The case is being investigated by authorities.

KD70,000 stolen

A KUWAITI informed the Murgab police station that an Egyptian employee had stolen KD70,000 from the company.

Meanwhile, two Kuwaitis and a Palestinian reported to the Sharq police station that a Kuwaiti had taken KD15,000, KD31,000 and KD10,500 from them by pretending he had a financial services company.

Red Crescent

AMMAN, March 20, (Kuna): The executive committee of the Arab Red Crescent started its meeting here this morning.

During its two-day deliberations, the committee will review the Palestinian uprising. Delegations from member states of the union of Arab Red Crescent organisations are attending the meeting.

Labour problem still unsettled

A MEETING to settle the problems between 32 Indian labourers and their employer did not take place yesterday as the employer's representative failed to turn up at the Indian embassy.

The talks between Indian embassy officials and the employer, Al Ajami Trading and Contractor Company was due to be held yesterday afternoon.

The workers, who have been

staying at the Indian embassy since March 14, have complained of ill-treatment.

On Saturday, embassy officials expressed hopes of resolving the issue at the meeting. Further discussions are scheduled to be held today to find an amicable settlement.

The labourers said they are ready to go back to India if their contracts are not honoured.

Students trying to prevent new charter

THE Student Union at Kuwait University held a general assembly meeting to discuss the steps taken by the union to prevent the application of the new university academic charter.

The chairman of the union Mohammed Al Dallal said that most of the students who had been given warnings were Kuwaiti nationals. Union members suggested that the Student Union coordinate their efforts with other unions in protesting the charter. It was also suggested that they expand their information campaign against the charter.

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By Fathima Ahmed

INDIAN VIDEO ROUNDUP

Going bananas



Jeetendra plays the title role in 'Hafazat'.

tired to drive, to the nearest bhupuri (another Indian snack) shop. Perhaps, batata vada sales have shot up since the film came on the scene.

The dreadful memories of a marble mine owner's son rapping a bride on her wedding night are fading; the real owner's ordeal in jail is a minor irritant and as you go over the traumatic experience of a man taking a second wife because the first can't bear a son: it becomes unbearable. And the memory of flogging a woman recedes. The rest is better forgotten. Yet Madhuri's sultry looks, her uninhibited acting and her innocence make an impression. She is the best thing that could have happened in Hafazat. According to film magazine reports Anil Kapoor, not surprisingly, has been embarrassed by his role in Hafazat, particularly the batata vada dream-dance sequence.

There seem to be a tremendous strain on the vocal chords of all performers in Mulzim (The Prisoner). They are, perhaps, competing for the who is the loudest of them all title. Even if you reduce the volume to a whisper, they sound like a pack of wolves fighting in a silent, dark night. As a result, dialogues are not spoken. They shout at each other while discussing a seemingly illogical point of view which the scriptwriters (Prabhu Brothers) believe is perfectly logical. Anyway, the film defies logic.

It is about a prisoner, Vijay (Jeetendra) who is jailed for killing. But he is not the actual killer. The real murderer, Ranjit (Suresh Oberoi) hides behind the cover of wealth. A lawyer, Mala (Amrita Singh), sympathises with Vijay and decides to reopen the case and files an



The prince and his charming girl: Anil Kapoor and Madhuri.

appeal. Vijay is released on bail. Another sympathiser, jailor Sharada Devi (Hema Malini), takes him under her wing, apparently to keep him out of trouble.

No way, Vijay heads for the home of his arch-enemy, Ranjit, and is about to hack him to pieces but a dramatic twist prevents him from committing the deadly act. From this point onwards the film alternates between brawls — the type where everything goes bang, bang, noisy court scenes and blaring musical numbers. And more of

that pours out, adversely affecting your ear drums. That pace is interrupted only by advertising, which for once, seems more entertaining. After several hours of sheer agony, comes the bloody end — blood (red paint if you wish) spilling all over the store room floor; blood oozing out of wounded bodies; blood all over the place. And by that time you don't know what the hoo ha was all about.

Video films by courtesy of Athari Video, Main St., Farwaniya. Tel: 4712900.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.30 World News via Satellite
- 3.30 Ibtal Al Ma'laeb: cartoon serial
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.20 World News via Satellite
- 4.45 Ghadab Al Sahara: Arabic serial; starring Abdul Rahman Al Rish, Sahar Rami, Talhath Hamdi. Last episode.
- 5.30 Mama Anisa and Children
- 6.00 Cultural film
- 6.45 News Summary
- 7.05 Weekend: repeat
- 7.35 Ifalna Wal Mustakbil: Our Children, and Their Future. Tonight's discussion centres on the education policy in the Arab World.
- 8.30 Good Evening and Local News
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Suraj Al Simt: last episode Arabic serial featuring Sana Jamil, Hamdi Ghalith, Anwar Ismael, Mimi Jamal.



The mini-series A Year in the Life continues tonight at 10.30 pm KTV 2

- 11.30 Daerat Al Ahdath: Circle of Events. Guests are Abdul Majid Khuraibit, Dr Mohammad Hadad, Dr Mohammad Sarawi. Prepared and presented by Kamel Sulaiman Abdul Jalil.
- 12.30 News Summary
- 12.35 World News via Satellite/Holy Quran/Closedown.

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Yogis Treasure Hunt: cartoons
- 6.30 The Animal Express: how horses, rhinos and monkeys are looked after in captivity.
- 7.00 Roving Report: weekly roundup of world news, presented by KTV.
- 7.30 Don't Wait Up: comedy. Toby is crestfallen after his wife refuses to take him back. Depressed, Toby is unwilling to become chairman of a medical council.

- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 the Law and Harry McGraw: "Solve it again." McGraw suffers temporary amnesia after being hit by a bullet.
- 9.30 Horizon: "Trial Babies." Infants born to mothers in their late 30s often suffer from deformities. The cases of two 38-year-old mothers and their children are examined in this episode.
- 10.30 Mini-Series: A Year in the Life. Joe Gardner pays a visit to his youngest daughter-in-law's house. But he has trouble communicating with his elder son. Starring: Richard Kiley, Wendy Phillips, Jayne Atkinson, Morgan Stevens and David Oliver.
- 11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.



Hema Malini.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Sultan Gallery
An exhibition of oil paintings by Pakistani artist Yasmeen Bhamia will be held at the gallery, Al Sogor St., from March 28. It will be open daily from 9 am to 1 pm and 5 to 8 pm.

Ghadir Gallery
Egyptian artist Magdi Kenawy is showing his latest collection of lithographs and prints at the gallery in Salihiya Complex. The exhibition is open daily from 9 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8 pm, until March 31.

THEATRE

Kuwait Players
Kuwait players present "Wait Until Dark," a suspense drama by Frederick Knott, directed by Mike Consden, starring Jennifer Gatland and Derrick Hicks. It will be performed at the Universal American School, Salwa, at 8 pm on March 28, 29, 30, 31. For reservations phone 5657749; 5332568.

MUSIC

Musical Nite
Funkada, a local music group, will hold Rang Trang, a musical nite, on March 24, 7.30 pm, at the Sharq Cooperative Society Hall. Entrance is by invitations only. Contact the organisers for details.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Watan Pharmacy
Jawharat Al Khaleej Bldg.
Fahad Al Salem St.
Al Rasheed Pharmacy
Ahmed Al Jaber St.
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Saadiah Pharmacy
Othman St.

Rock 'n' Romance
Kuwait Players present Rock 'n' Romance, a rock show with a romantic touch, will be performed tonight, 8 pm, and every night until Wednesday, at the Regency Palace Hotel. Directed by June Stevenson and Phil Thomas. It features music by Eric Clapton, Dire Straits, Elton John, Chopin, and others. For reservations call 5624175, after 2 pm, or 5745838.

Jazz Concert
The American jazz band, the Kevin Eubanks Trio, will give a concert at the Kuwait University Sports Stadium in Shuwaikh, on Tuesday, March 22, at 7.30 pm. All are welcome, no admission fee, no reserved seats.

SOCIAL

Get-acquainted social gathering
All Bangladeshi computer professionals are invited to a get-acquainted social gathering. For details phone 2411610 (7 am to 1 pm); 4841748 (4-8 pm); 3714096 (4-8 pm).

May Queen
The May Queen will be crowned at a special event which will be held on May 16 at the Sheraton Hotel. Highlight of the evening will be a fashion show featuring clothes designed by Tapat Ray. Two local bands — Stepping Stones and City Limits — will provide entertainment. The event is being organised by the Kuwait Goans Association.

Salviya and Rumaithiya
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Fahad Hamad Khalid Bldg., Razi St.
Fahad and Ahmadi
Al Khaleej Pharmacy
Mujammah St., F'heel
New Khaitan
Al Fahad Pharmacy
New Khaitan Suburb
Jahra
Al Khalid Pharmacy
Opp. Cooperative Society

Party for Volunteers
The Handicapped Society invites all volunteers to a tea party at the Plaza hotel at 5 pm on Wednesday, March 23.

Filipino Get-together
The next "kumustahan" (get-together) will be held on Saturday, March 26, in the Church Hall. All Filipinos are invited. Free snacks will be served. Admission free.

Weekend Club
The Club will host "Summer Queen '88" on the first day of Eid Al Fitr at the Regency Palace Hotel. The highlight of the evening will be the crowning of the Summer Queen '88 by last year's winner. Musical entertainment will be by Next of Kin and Top Ranks with Adolf performing latest numbers.

HOTELS

At the Meridien
Kiwi Festival features the

fruit in cocktails, salads, main courses and pastries. The promotion is being held in La Brasserie, Al Wah and Al Fing. The festival ends on April 3.

Dine in the Versailles Restaurant
and enjoy jazz music and ballads presented by Tony and Jenny's band. The band plays in the restaurant on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

EDUCATION

Higher Education in UK Exhibition
Representatives from universities all over Britain will be present to give expert advice on courses and admissions procedures from March 21 to 23 at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel. A wide selection of information on undergraduate and post-graduate study will be available. The exhibition will

open today from 4 to 6 pm; Tuesday March 22, 4 to 8 pm and Wednesday, March 23, 4 to 8 pm. For more information contact Education Adviser, British Council, 2 Al Arabi St., Mansouriya. Tel: 2515512; 2533204.

SPORTS

Sports Festival for Children
A sports festival for Bangladeshi children will be held on April 8. For details contact 4840759; 4710306; 5716586, 3903605. All Bangladeshis are welcome.

Interschool Knockout '88
A series of sports and games featuring student and teacher teams from Kuwait's schools will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel. For details contact the hotel. Poolside barbecue and dinner for spectators.

Filipino hold Mini-Olympics

March 31 is the last date for submitting completed application forms for the Palarong Pilipino (mini-Olympics). Teams failing to submit entries will be disqualified. Final sports meeting to discuss arrangements will be held at 2 pm on April 8 at the Philippines Embassy. The games will be held from May 16. For further details contact Bong Melencio — 4877793.

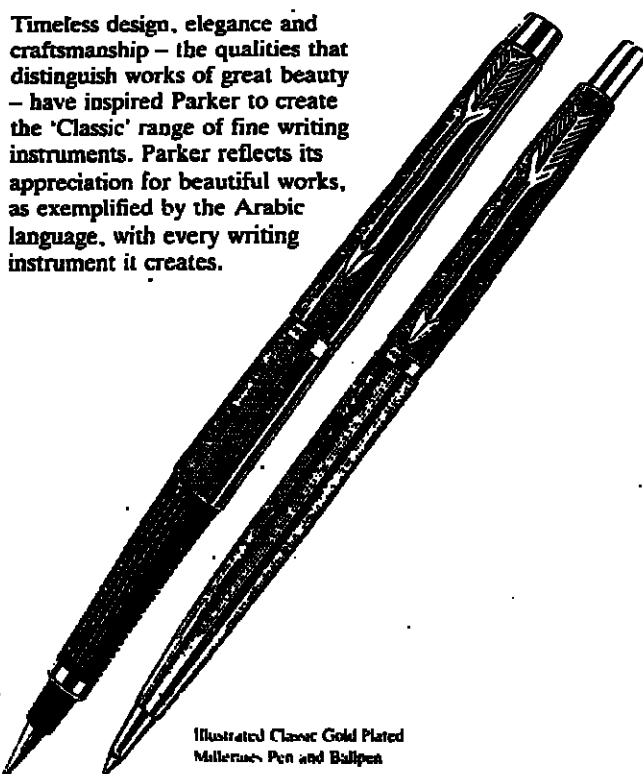
E.M.A.C. Tournament

A tennis tournament for under-16s will be held from April 13 to 16 at the SAS Hotel. Participating teams are from Abu Dhabi, Oman, Damascus, American School of Kuwait, Universal American School, Kuwait English School and New English School. The tournament has been organised by E.M.A.C. (Eastern Mediterranean Activities Conference).



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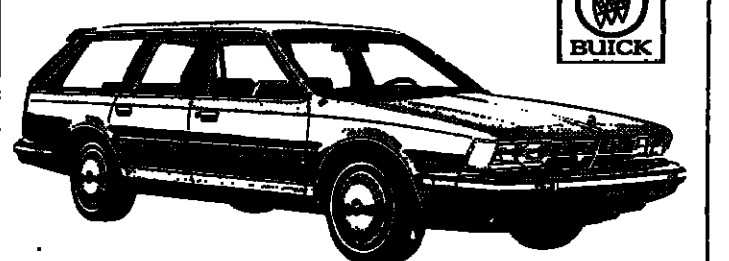
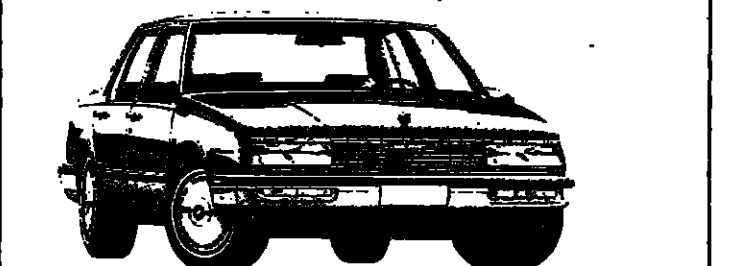
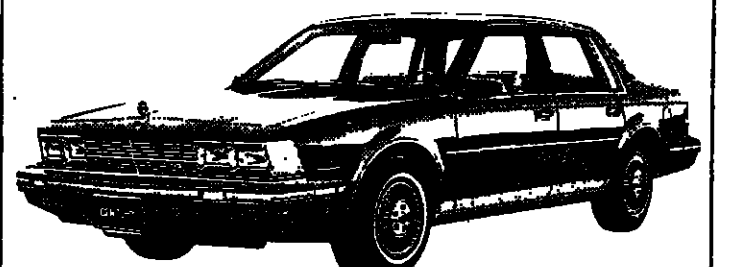
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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES
Thought for today

THE most difficult thing in life is to know yourself —
Thales, Greek philosopher (about 640 BC - 546 BC).

Peace continues
to elude Sri Lanka

By Jonathan S. Landay

VAVUNIYA, Sri Lanka, (UPI): India's efforts to subdue Tamil rebels refusing to follow its blueprint for peace in Sri Lanka have produced fear and bitterness in this small market town in northern province.

The situation in Vavuniya, 110 miles (180 km) north of Colombo, illustrates the hurdles India still faces in winning public support which is crucial to the success of the Indo-Sri Lankan accord to end the Indian Ocean island's civil war.

Resentment against Indian troops runs high in Vavuniya, not only among its Tamil majority but also its small Muslim and Sinhalese communities. They all expected Indian intervention that began in July to restore peace and security after more than four years of bloodshed.

Instead they were badly traumatised by civilian deaths and alleged atrocities that occurred in a November-October Indian offensive against the Tamil rebel bastion of Jaffna, 90 miles (145 km) to the north.

India's earnest efforts to rebuild confidence by restoring civil administration, providing medical and education aid and rebuilding damaged infrastructure have not mitigated anger over roadblocks and searches, the threat of indefinite curfews and persistent violence.

But for many of Vavuniya's 15,000 people, the worst outrage is the failure of Indian commanders to end serious crime by Tamil militant groups, who were given amnesty if they endorsed the July 29 Indo-Sri Lankan Peace Accord and agreed to join political moves to end the conflict.

Local officials, Sri Lankan military officers, clergymen, business and community leaders and residents alleged that since the accord, these groups have continued kidnappings, extortion, highway holdups, and hijackings — and even increased them — to obtain funds.

"These groups are very big thieves," said T. Sathivel, 26, a Tamil bank clerk, one of the few who did not insist on anonymity.

in fear of retribution. "They are robbing innocent people."

Residents said this is occurring amid and despite a buildup around Vavuniya of thousands of Indian troops involved in disarming the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the largest and only movement still fighting for an independent nation of "Eelam" for the island's mostly Hindu Tamil minority.

Residents said they frequently complain to Indian commanders about the practices of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation and the Peoples Liberation Organisation of Eelam, the two groups based in the Vavuniya area.

"They don't do anything at all," said a Christian clergyman. "The people approach the Indians, but they say 'what can we do?' People have lost confidence in the peacekeeping force."

"The Indians pretend not to know about it," said a lawyer, who echoed other opinions that Indian inaction has increased sympathy among Vavuniya's Tamils for the Tigers.

An Indian official said the complaints were "grossly overstated," and while admitting some extortion was occurring, said the Indians had "taken action" and "stopped" highway holdups and hijackings.

He added that Indian diplomats and commanders have repeatedly told the groups to halt their illegal activities. Businessmen in hushed voices complain about "taxes" they are required to pay and support their charges by showing "receipts" embossed with the groups' emblems and initials.

Extortion victims and Sri Lankan military sources said the groups enforce their demands with threats of violence.

Anger at the Indians and Tamil groups has been sharpened by other factors.

Residents and Sri Lankan military sources said Indian commanders, lacking intelligence on the Tigers, are using the rival groups to identify LTTE cadres and arms caches. At the same time, the other groups have been allowed to keep their weapons and maintain camps close to Indian bases.

Return of Afghan
refugees difficult

By Jack Reed

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan, (UPI): On paper, the plan seems simple enough: inculcate all refugees and give each family a tent plus a three-month supply of wheat, cooking oil and a few farming tools — and a free ride across the border.

In practice, shifting the world's biggest refugee population back home once the Soviet Union withdraws from Afghanistan may be roughly as troublesome as, say, sending the combined population of Miami and Fort Lauderdale to Cuba.

Nothing on this scale has ever been done before.

The refugees are Afghans, most of whom fled their native land after Soviet forces rolled into the country nine years ago.

With no precedents and no firm idea as to how many refugees actually will go home or when, joint planning by Pakistan, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other international relief agencies is at best preliminary.

One Pakistani official puts it bluntly: "We're talking about moving an entire country."

Even the exact number of refugees is not known. Pakistan lists 3.1 million in 320 camps along the rugged, 1,000-mile (1,700-km) Afghan-Pakistan border. But it says none of the new births has been recorded, and Western sources put the refugees total at about 2.5 million.

Officials familiar with the plans say repatriation envisions the eventual return of 80 per cent to 90 per cent of the refugees, beginning slowly in the initial stages of the Soviet nine-month withdrawal.

Some particularly in the eastern provinces bordering Pakistan, will head back to Afghanistan as soon as the Soviets start leaving, "provided there is no famine and no civil war," says one official.

But the rest — many of whom

have set up shops, leased farmland or gone into Pakistan's transport and construction businesses — will remain behind, putting a strain on Pakistan's already high unemployment and ethnic relations in cities such as Karachi, officials say.

Because some refugees might wait to see how conditions at home stabilise — at the same time avoiding the harsh Afghan winter — repatriation may not begin in earnest until next year, says Kamal Matinuddin, an analyst with the Pakistan Institute of Strategic Studies.

Meanwhile, relief agencies have drawn up what one official described as a "basic kit" for refugee families in some 320 makeshift villages along the border, to help them restart their lives once they return home.

Package

The package will include inoculations, farming tools and a three-month supply of wheat, cooking oil and a free transportation across the border. There also will be a tent, because most of the refugees' homes in Afghanistan have been destroyed.

Combined with as many as 2 million Afghans in Iran and more than 1 million rural Afghans who fled to Kabul and other major Afghan cities, the refugees represent about one-third of Afghanistan's post-war population.

Those in Pakistan began trickling in after the April 27, 1978, military coup that toppled President Mohammad Daud Khan and installed the Soviet-backed People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

The flood started 20 months later, when the Soviet Union rushed thousands of troops into the country to shore up the PDPA against growing Muslim resistance to communist rule in the land-locked nation.

Despite recent talk of withdrawal, refugees have continued to stream across the border.

Problems piling up for Indian premier

Rajiv helped by opposition disunity

By Eileen Alt Powell

NEW DELHI, (AP): Three years after he was swept to office in a landslide victory, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has become the target of a vociferous opposition campaign for his ouster.

There have been anti-government rallies drawing thousands of slogan-shouting demonstrators to the capital, angry walk-outs in parliament and general strikes closing businesses and schools.

"We think he is vulnerable," said Prakash Karat of the Marxist Communist Party of India, which has helped organise some of the agitation. "If he dares to call a mid-term poll, the opposition has a good chance of winning."

In Karat's eyes, the 43-year-old prime minister has brought the problems on himself. He cited charges of corruption in the Rajiv government, rising Sikh separatist violence in Punjab state and mounting economic problems.

Rajiv has so far rejected all calls for a "snap" poll, and aides and independent analysts say the opposition parties are in too much disarray to beat him anyway.

The handful of factions are united only in their anti-Rajiv fervor and often tend to compete more with each other. No leader has emerged among the dissidents.

United

The Indian press, alive to rumours that Rajiv may indeed call an election, has begun talking about his "Tina factor," an acronym for "there is no alternative." Supporters and detractors alike say Tina may ensure that Rajiv not only weathers the current political storm but emerges with a second, five-year term.

A poll of more than 10,000 voters conducted last month for India Today, a biweekly news magazine, indicated that if fresh parliament elections were held now, Rajiv's Congress Party would win 64 per cent of the seats.

That's down from the 77 per cent it won in December 1984,

when Rajiv came to power on a wave of sympathy two months after his mother and predecessor, Indira Gandhi, was assassinated by two Sikh bodyguards. But it's more than enough to form a government in India's multiparty system.

"Rajiv Gandhi's Congress benefits from the Tina factor precisely because the opposition parties show no signs of coming together," the magazine concludes.

Rajiv enjoyed a honeymoon, of sorts, during his first two years in office. An airline pilot before moving into politics, he promised to modernise India and was nicknamed "Mr Clean" for his pledge to bring honest government to the 800 million Indians.

With the Congress-dominated parliament behind him, Rajiv liberalised industrial policy, modified the tax system to encourage private investment and increased funding for education and health.

Last year, the honeymoon ended. First came the disclosure that Rajiv's finance ministry had hired an American detective

agency to investigate the illegal overseas bank accounts of Indians, a controversial move in a nation wary of foreign influence.

Next came the announcement that the government was investigating whether kickbacks were paid on contracts for Swedish artillery guns and West German submarines.

Corruption

Opposition leaders — and several powerful newspapers — seized the corruption issue and hammered away with allegations that some of the bribes went to Rajiv or his allies in the Congress Party.

Although none of the charges was proved, Rajiv was forced to go to the floor of parliament and deny any personal involvement. At the same time, domestic problems mounted.

The annual monsoon rains failed, plunging two-thirds of the nation into drought. Attacks by Sikh extremists in Punjab rose dramatically, leaving more than 1,000 people dead by last year's end. An Indian-brokered peace accord in nearby Sri Lanka was

signed but shortly collapsed. Although Rajiv has sent more than 50,000 troops to the island to put down a Tamil separatist rebellion, the opposition has not focused on the issue.

"Last year there was a tremendous amount of uncertainty," admitted a Rajiv aide, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "We weathered it. Since then, a lot of high temperatures have come down."

Still, the aide rules out the likelihood of a "snap" election anytime soon to test Rajiv's strength, as opposition parties have demanded. "No government calls an election after a setback like the drought," he said.

Defeat

Ashis Nandy, a political analyst at the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, believes that regardless of what polls show, the opposition could defeat Rajiv.

"The Indian electorate is traditionally either rewards a regime for ruling well or punishes it for ruling badly," Nandy said. "Although Rajiv may still be personally honest, he looks tainted."

looks inefficient. The voters do not feel good about him."

In fact, voters last year did not look kindly on the Congress Party, which lost five of six state assembly elections to regional opposition parties. This year it has fared better, winning a plurality of seats in the two northeastern states in January.

Just who will lead the opposition charge nationally remains to be seen. The strongest contender is V.P. Singh, who was finance minister under Rajiv before being ousted from the Congress for "anti-party activity."

Singh now attacks Rajiv as "a total failure." He and a dozen other Congress dissidents have been trying to forge alliances with other opposition groups. No common front has emerged, in part because leftist groups like the Communist Party refuse to ally themselves with right-wing, Hindu-dominated parties like the Bharatiya Janata Party.

The BJP was the main backer of an anti-Rajiv strike that shut down New Delhi's shops and factories March 9. But the BJP did not join other opposition groups during an "all-India" strike on March 15, and a large part of India went about business as usual.

Jackson: a leading contender 'who can't win'

By Steve Gerstel

WASHINGTON: After six torrid weeks 30 primaries and caucuses, Jesse Jackson is a leading contender for the 1988 Democratic presidential nomination that he has no chance of winning.

The southern-born civil rights leader, the first black to make a serious run for the presidency, has won or finished second in 22 of the 30 primaries and caucuses. He leads in the combined total of the popular vote from the primaries and is a close second in delegates to the national convention with more than half now selected.

Weaknesses

And along with Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis and Tennessee Sen. Albert Gore, Jackson has survived in splendid shape the grueling winnowing of candidates that killed the White House aspirations of Bruce Babbitt and Gary Hart, and left Paul Simon and Richard Gephardt clinging to seemingly hopeless campaigns.

Yet, no one gives him a shot at winning the nomination.

Detroit Mayor Coleman Young, one of the few prominent black office holders not supporting Jackson, says, "I don't believe this country is going to let a black man in as president. I don't think Jesse believes it."

Jackson's campaign has exposed weaknesses, despite his successes, that would preclude him from the nomination, and which could stunt his efforts in the remaining primaries.

Despite Jackson's attempts to broaden his voter base, it remains basically all black. He draws more and more white voters, mostly liberals, but not enough.

Last Tuesday's Illinois primary, in which Jackson finished second, provided a good example of his problem. In his adopted state, Jackson won, according to exit polls, 91 per cent of the black vote, but only 8 per cent of the white vote. In predominantly black areas he won, and won big. But in mostly white areas, he could not break through.

Surprised by Jackson's growing success, the white Democratic establishment showers Jackson and his campaign with praise, but notes only that the former Baptist preacher and civil rights leader will be a "major factor" or a "key breaker" at the convention in Atlanta.

Even his rivals tend to ignore him. After Super Tuesday, Gore proclaimed the race was between himself and Dukakis, not even mentioning Jackson who beat him in five deep south states.

Their television ads, frequen-

tly bitter personal jabs at each other, have never included Jackson. At some point, however, the Democratic Party has to come to grips with the Jackson phenomena.

"If you know there's an elephant in the living room," said a top Jackson aide, "somebody's got to say, 'hey, there's an elephant in the living room.'"

Whether or not Jackson actually believes he can win the nomination, he certainly has given the Democratic Party no reason to reject him.

Mediator

More than any of the other candidates, he has played the role of mediator. And all the way, he has been the ultimate team player.

It is Jackson, not any of the other candidates, who warns that "bloodletting" in the primaries could be "disastrous" in the November election and frequently recalls the bitter political war between President Jimmy Carter and Sen. Edward Kennedy, Democrat-Massachusetts, which he says cost the Democratic Party the 1980 election.

"The convention should not be a battleground for the candidates," Jackson says.

Asked whether Democrats might do him in by swinging the super delegates — some 645 party leaders who are not selec-

ted in primaries or caucuses — behind some other candidate, Jackson brushes off the possibility.

"I would hope, at the end, the delegates will match the popular vote," Jackson says. "Super delegates allow us to do that. I will get my fair share of super delegates."

And would he sit out the election, if the Democrats deny him what he has won?

"All my adult life, I have supported the party's nominee," Jackson says. "My pattern is consistent. I expect to be the nominee and I certainly will support myself. I have no plans to lose. Those speculating on what I would do if I lose, do not support me anyhow."

Different

Jesse Jackson of 1988 is far different from Jesse Jackson of 1984, who was considered little more than a spoiler who won only in Louisiana and South Carolina, but had to be treated with kid gloves because of his power with black voters.

Four years ago, Jackson was prone to unfortunate remarks like his reference to New York City as "hymietown" and associations, such as Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan, Yasser Arafat and Fidel Castro, petulance when he felt affronted and a chronically disorganised campaign.

US troops to Honduras: move
deemed a ploy for Contra aid

By Christopher Hanson

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): Foreign policy experts say President Reagan ordered 3,200 troops to Honduras to help him storm an objective much closer to home — the US Congress, where foes of his Nicaragua policy are deeply entrenched.

Reagan accused Nicaragua's leftist Sandinista government of invading neighbouring Honduras on Wednesday to pursue White House-backed Nicaraguan Contra rebels, whose funding has been cut off by Congress.

He despatched the US-based airborne and infantry troops for what was termed "an emergency deployment readiness exercise" in Honduras, a close ally of the United States.

"This exercise is a measured response designed to show our staunch support to the democratic government of Honduras at a time when its territory and integrity is being violated by the Cuban and Soviet-supported Sandinista Army," White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater declared.

But defence analysts and some members of Congress said the move was aimed less at Managua than at Capitol Hill, where Democrats have been thwarting Reagan's anti-Sandinista policy.

Sabre-rattling
"I see this as an extreme case of sabre-rattling," retired Marine Lieutenant Colonel John Buchanan of the private Centre for Defence Information think tank said in an interview.

"The enemy Reagan is trying to close with and destroy is the Democrats. He is trying to stampede them into supporting Contra aid."

Leading congressional foes of Contra aid agreed with him. "Using this incursion to get more aid for the Contras is frankly more hype than reality," Connecticut Democratic Senator Christopher Dodd told reporters.

Wayne Smith, a former State Department Central America specialist, told reporters Reagan had blown a limited Sandinista



President Reagan

operation out of proportion, deeming it an invasion against Honduras when it was only the latest in a series of cross-border incursions directed solely against the Contras.

Reagan also stressed past incursions in his calls for more Contra aid.

Pursuit

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega denied on Wednesday his troops had crossed the border but Sandinista officials later conceded some might have done so in "hot pursuit."

The White House said up to 2,000 Sandinista troops had driven into Honduras, where US officials admit many Contras are based, although Honduras denies hosting them.

Some of Reagan's Congressional critics voiced suspicion that they had been misled for much of Wednesday by White House statements that no troop deployment was planned.

At the same time administration sources were telling reporters anonymously that a troop movement was indeed afoot and the US soldiers were packing their gear.

Much later Fitzwater told an unusual late night press briefing that the deployment had in fact been ordered because Honduras had requested it that evening.

"There is deep suspicion among some Democrats that the whole thing is trumped up," Congressman Lee Hamilton, a leading member of the House

Foreign Affairs Committee, told reporters.

Dodd said it was no coincidence that the troop move was announced on the day two former top Reagan aides — retired Rear Admiral John Poindexter and Marine Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North — were indicted on conspiracy charges stemming from the Iran-Contra scandal.

Divert

Reagan's surprise move would divert some attention from this stain on his administration, Dodd said.

The scandal, involving diversion of money from arms sales to Iran to the Contras during an earlier ban on Contra aid, has undermined Reagan's anti-Sandinista policy.

It was factor in Congress' rejection of Contra military and non-lethal aid in two key votes this year.

While critical of the administration's behaviour, many US analysts said it seemed Ortega had miscalculated in launching a major thrust against the rebels along the Honduras border.

He inadvertently gave the White House a chance to revive its Contra policy, as Republican conservatives predictably demanded a new aid vote.

The White House said on Tuesday, when Managua announced its offensive, that Reagan was considering approving a Democratic plan for strictly non-lethal Contra aid.

But Fitzwater said on Wednesday the situation in the region had changed radically in a day and the administration was considering a new request for military aid.

Reverse

He said Nicaragua was taking advantage of Contra weakness resulting from the end of US aid to wipe the rebels out only a week before the two sides were due to hold peace talks.

It was far from clear whether Congress would now reverse itself and support a Contra aid package.

Hamilton doubted lawmakers' attitudes had changed much since the earlier votes.

Demonstrations only the tip of the iceberg
Gorbachev's glasnost under test

By Paul Quinn-Judge

TALLIN, USSR: Mikhail Gorbachev's policies of openness and democratisation may in the long run face their biggest challenge in Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia.

Nationalist agitation in the three states flared into demonstrations last summer. These were tolerated, but later denounced as the work of extremists.

The demonstrations are only the tip of the iceberg. Soviet leader Gorbachev's policy of glasnost (openness) is slowly eroding the official version of Baltic history, in which the three states voluntarily joined the Soviet Union in 1940. His leadership has lifted the tight political controls that have kept the Baltic quiet for more than 15 years. And his economic reforms have given rise here to an open call for a broad degree of economic autonomy.

Later last year, the Communist Party leadership started to become worried by Baltic nationalism. A so-far unpublished resolution of the ruling Politburo on the subject was passed in December.

Prof. Jan Rebane, a leading Estonian academic, says the resolution was directed to the party leaderships of the three Baltic republics. It noted the recent "manifestation of nationalism" in the republics, and emphasised the need for Baltic Communist leaders to improve their work on relations between different national groups, Rebane said.

Replaced

Also in December, the Communist leadership in the three republics established special organisations to handle national questions. And in mid-January, Rein Ristalaan, the Estonian party official in charge of ideology, was replaced by Indrek Toome, an official reputed to be more liberally minded. The new party sectors on national relations have three to four staff members, and are attached to the department of propaganda and agitation of each republic's party Central Committee, said Juris Goldmanis, a historian who heads the Latvian sector. Gold-

manis noted that there was only one precedent for such organisations: the southern republic of Kazakhstan, where large-scale riots followed the removal in December 1986 of regional party chief Dinnukhamed Kunayev.

"The authorities have good reason to be worried by nationalist agitation," an Estonian intellectual commented. "The only thing that has kept us quiet since the late '60s has been tight KGB control."

A combination of events similar to present political developments gave rise to activism in the late 1960s. These were Nikita Khrushchev's political "thaw" and the wave of reform sweeping through Czechoslovakia, said the intellectual, who was active in the student movement in the 1960s.

The 1968 "Prague spring" inspired hopes of "change within the framework of socialism," the Estonian intellectual recalled. The crushing of the movement sparked off student unrest. Toome was a student leader at the time. Though he was not involved in the agitation, he is remembered as more sympathetically disposed to the activists than most officials.

Agitation

The Estonian predicts that the next round of agitation will be more intense. "Today's young Estonians are less afraid. Stalin left a shadow over my generation. Young people now don't remember those days." At the same time, the present atmosphere of de-Stalinisation provides a favourable environment for activism. Gorbachev is popular, the Estonian said. "But in the long run, the only logical compromise that is possible is some form of autonomy for Estonia within the USSR."

A group of Estonian intellectuals issued a call last September for "territorial khozraschet (cost accounting)" — essentially a form of economic autonomy — for Estonia. Some of those behind the move are said to be members of the 1968 generation of student activists. Officials have criticised the idea as ill prepared, but say they are still considering it.

The three Baltic states have different histories, cultures and languages, but have common grievances vis-a-vis Moscow.

The core of Moscow's problem is the annexation of the Baltic states by the Soviet Union in August 1940. Moscow still claims that the incorporation was voluntary. But the reassessment of history and the process of de-Stalinisation that are central to Gorbachev's political reforms, are slowly undermining the credibility of the official version.

It is now publicly admitted that many Baltic Communists, including the Latvian rifleman who constituted the nucleus of the Bolshevik Army in 1918 — were imprisoned or killed during the Stalinist purges of the 1930s. The government is also beginning to admit the extent of Stalinist deportations in all three states soon after their annexation.

Deportations

Official figures, published here for the first time recently, set the number of Estonian deportees at more than 10,000 in 1941. Soviet officials have in the past tried to justify the deportations as "anticipatory measures" taken to remove potential Nazi collaborators on the eve of the German invasion. The Estonian figures make it clear that only 20 per cent of the deportees were males of military age. Figures for Latvia and Lithuania have not yet been released. It is now officially admitted that a further 20,000 Estonians were deported in 1949, and repressions continued into the early 1950s.

Historical incidents have been compounded by immigration and language problems. Estonia and Latvia have some of the highest living standards in the Soviet Union. This has led to large-scale immigration, which has in turn triggered fears of Russification. According to official figures, 610,000 population (39 per cent) are non-Estonians, mostly ethnic Russians. Unofficial Estonians, however, speak of a widespread perception that the population is already split 50-50 between Estonians and others. In Estonia, steps were taken in January to reduce the flow of immigrants. The Christian Science Monitor News Service.

سازمان مطبعه

The bare facts revealed

Hair loss: what's normal, what's not

By Leah Rosch

How healthy hair grows

OF the approximately 100,000 strands of hair on your head, each goes through a natural three-phase life cycle: Normally, about 85 per cent are in the anagen (or growing) phase, which can last from two to six years; 1 to 2 per cent are in the catagen (transitional) phase, which lasts about three weeks; the rest are in the telogen (or resting) phase. Two to four months after a hair enters the resting phase, it is shed and immediately replaced by a new hair that grows from the same follicle.

As you age (and especially after menopause), the rate of new hair growth diminishes, resulting in gradually thinning hair. For premenopausal women, shedding 50 to 125 hairs a day is normal, according to Maria Hordinsky, M.D., assistant professor of dermatology, University of Minnesota and fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology. And according to Wilma Bergfeld, M.D., head of clinical research in the department of dermatology, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, "Hair follicles are reputed to be the body's most sensitive organs. When something goes

wrong or normal functions are altered, it is frequently evidenced in how the hair grows." But even so, suddenly losing excessive amounts of hair does not necessarily mean you will be bald.

Common conditions causing hair loss

Hair loss in women is typically linked to a multitude of factors — among them, hormonal changes, stress, genetic predisposition, physical trauma, serious illness, medication, even improper diet. And the severity of the hair loss condition varies, depending on whether the hair loss is localized to certain patches on the scalp or shed equally from all over.

Excessive shedding
When something causes your hair cycle to switch rapidly from the growing phase to the resting phase, you experience excessive shedding. Since it can take as long as six months from the physical or emotional trauma to the onset of hair loss, it's often difficult to pinpoint the reason. One culprit: crash dieting. When you deprive your body of sufficient protein, growing hairs can shift into the resting phase. Eating a well-balanced diet, including five to seven ounces of protein daily, can help reverse (and prevent) this condition.

Another factor: pregnancy.

During pregnancy, high estrogen hormone levels prolong the growing phase of the hair cycle, says Dr. Hordinsky. After delivery, hormone levels normalize and great numbers of hairs simultaneously convert to the resting phase, usually within three months, they're shed. This increased shedding can last from one to six months, after which normal hair growth resumes.

Certain types of birth control pills can alter hormone balance to the point of promoting diffuse hair loss. If this occurs, consult your gynecologist about switching to another oral contraceptive.

Bald patches

Emotional stress, as well as certain medical conditions — thyroid disease, anaemia, chronic high fever, a severe infection or debilitating illness, even an acute bout with the flu — can contribute to excessive hair loss. So can anti-depressants, megadoses of vitamin A (including prescribed acne medications containing vitamin A, such as the drug Accutane) and certain chemotherapy drugs. In most cases, associated hair loss is completely reversible once the medical condition is treated or drug therapy is ended or controlled, according to Dr. Hordinsky.

When hair loss is localized to one or a few small, round patches (ranging in size from a penny to a quarter), it can stem from a condition called alopecia areata, an autoimmune disease in which the body attacks its own hair follicles for unknown reasons. "There is speculation that this disorder is exacerbated by stress," says Ellen Gendler, MD, clinical instructor of dermatology at New York University Medical Centre. Although, in most cases, the shedded-hair roots don't actually die, anagen hair is halted in the early stages of development.

Dermatologists most often treat this condition with scalp injections or topical treatment of steroids, usually once a month for three to six months. Efficacy varies, but in most cases, hair regrows, says Dr. Gendler. However, the condition can recur.

Another cause of localized hair loss: hairstyles that pull hair too tightly and tug at the roots. They often result in sparse or patchy hair at the temples, especially in black women's hair. Hair loss is usually reversed once the hairstyle is altered with looser styles. "But," Dr. Hordinsky cautions, "if tension on the roots has been

prolonged, scarring may have resulted, in which case hair loss is permanent."

Long-term chemical over-processing, such as continuous colouring or repetitive perming or straightening can also damage scalp and hair follicles, ultimately causing permanent hair loss, says Dr. Bergfeld. Preventive measures: Never have two chemical-application processes done on the same day. If you're treating your hair at home, carefully follow package instructions and never leave chemicals on hair longer than directed.

Receding hairline

Like men, some women are genetically predisposed to pattern baldness. Unlike men, women with this tendency usually develop thinning hair, not baldness. "We're still researching what causes this. It probably has to do with a reaction to the androgen hormones," explains Dr. Bergfeld. Hair shafts become thinner and shorter as their growth rates decrease, she adds.

There are treatments available to stabilize — and if caught early enough, perhaps even reverse — pattern baldness. The most promising remedy now being prescribed by some dermatologists is minoxidil, a potent high blood pressure medication, applied topically. (Though minoxidil hasn't yet received US government approval for use as a hair restorer, a Food and Drug Administration advisory committee recommended its use for this purpose. Many dermatologists are optimistic that Rogaine Topical Solution, the trade name used by the Upjohn Company for topical minoxidil, will be approved and available by prescription in the near future.)

Currently, typical treatment consists of twice daily minoxidil applications for at least four months (or until it appears to take effect). For female pattern baldness, continued use of minoxidil will probably be necessary to maintain the hair. Treatments can cost from \$50 to \$150 a month. Efficacy varies, but success is highest if treatment is begun before hair



Hair loss in women is typically linked to a multitude of factors such as hormonal changes, stress, genetic predisposition, physical trauma, serious illness, medication and improper diet.

loss is extensive, says Dr. Bergfeld.

Several new over-the-counter products are being marketed as hair enhancers — among them Folene European Treatment for Thinning Hair by Minnetonka, Flowlin by Shiseido, Vivagen Hair Enrichment Treatment from Redken and Recapture Scalp Treatment by French Transit, Ltd.

Though none of these products will yield new hair growth, their use may make your hair look and feel thicker. In addition, some products may promote good scalp hygiene — a prerequisite for treating hair problems, says Dr. Hordinsky.

Hairstyles to camouflage thinning hair
Short, layered styles are most flattering, since they give the

illusion of overall fullness. Perms also add volume to thinning hair. A receding hairline can be hidden with bangs cut from the crown. Avoid side or middle parts — these can expose too much scalp. And skip the old adage of one hundred brush strokes a day — this can put too much tension on roots, exacerbating thinning-hair problems.

Not your ordinary women's magazine

A silver-haired divorcee has just staked \$25 million on a magazine in praise of older women. Will they buy it?

By Amhea Gerrie

WOULD you buy a magazine that stands up in praise of older women, wrinkles, crepey eyelids and all? One American senior citizen has gambled a fortune on the notion — and says thousands of matrons are falling upon her in the street to keep their thanks for the commitment.

Lear's 'A Magazine For the Woman Who Wasn't Born Yesterday' and launched in New York recently against a fanfare of hyperbole, is not exactly your ordinary women's magazine. The cover is not retouched, for one thing, and the model looks up proudly in the eye, defying us to criticise her caked make-up and the lines etched into her forehead.

Inside, we find more wrinkled women, some telling us what turns them on in their dotage and others talking about the new careers and fulfilment they've found in later life.

Naturally, there are interviews with older men, too, one pictured rather startlingly in his Jacuzzi, jowls and all.

Is this serious? Will the

Founders and editor Frances Lear (right) says readers love her magazine.

entire perception of ageing; they have already been movers and shakers within the women's movement, and now they have pushed back the definition of ageing itself.

"Once a woman was considered old when she turned 40, but today it is nearer 60. I am 64 myself and the word 'old' certainly doesn't apply."

Pressed, she searched for a definition. "Being old used to mean someone who was starting to die, using words like 'My life is over'."

Careers
"Now there are women starting new careers at 50 or 60, taking their talent and creativity and putting them to different uses. They are the most active and most affluent group in the country — and they are growing all the time."

She is so bullish on the subject, she adds: "I have already decided to launch more magazines for this age group, which is the only one I am really interested in."

After 25 years of non-stop youth culture, women are stopping me in the streets and on elevators to thank me for what I am doing.

"The magazines they have had to date talk to them as though they are not quite intelligent, not quite sophisticated and not quite serious. I automatically assume all three."

"Their response to Lear's is very emotional and frankly, I am not a bit surprised. I was convinced even before I started that there was an untapped market of women over 40 lurking like an earthquake under my feet."

"These women are changing

A fracture of the heel is seen more commonly in athletes, but it also can occur in the non-athlete in daily activity. Sometimes the fracture is so slight that an X-ray done immediately shows nothing. As the problem progresses, the fracture becomes more noticeable on the X-ray. Protecting the foot with some sort of brace or cast is usually the best treatment, and about six weeks of total rest of the foot is required for it to heal.

Heel pain usually responds best to conservative treatment of rest, support and anti-inflammatory medication. It can become quite irritating and sometimes even debilitating, if it interferes with walking. So don't ignore your painful heel. It may start out as just a nag, but it can become increasingly painful if you don't treat it with some respect and... some rest.

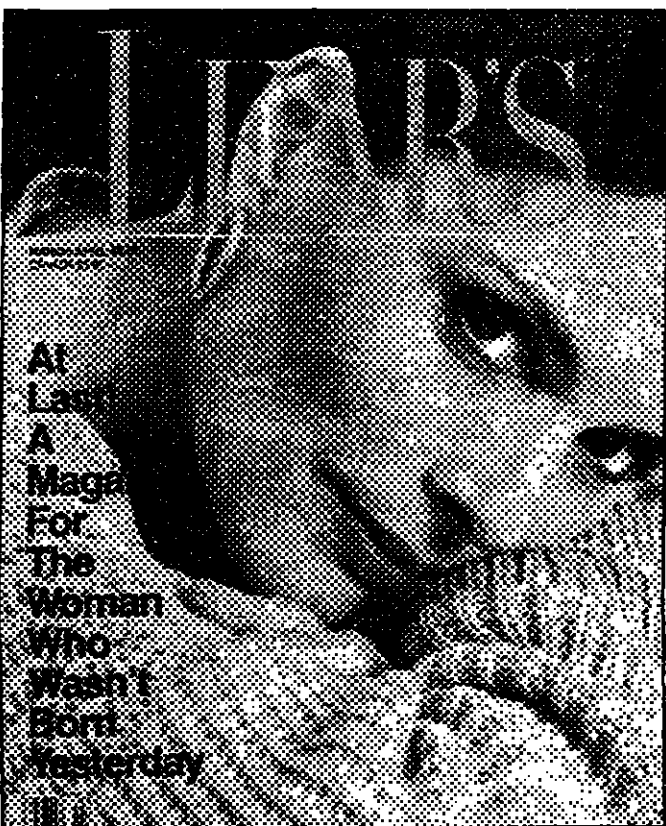
QUESTION: What does "aphasia" mean? What causes this condition?

ANSWER: Aphasia is the loss of language ability after a brain injury or stroke. There are several different kinds of aphasia, and they affect different parts of the language process. Some people with aphasia may be unable to say the words they want to

say. Other people may not know the words they want, although the words are familiar ones. For instance, they may not be able to say the name of a family member, although they know and recognise the family member. Some with aphasia are unable to communicate in sentences, speaking instead in a sort of jibberish. Others who have aphasia suffer difficulties in understanding what is said to them. Instead of hearing coherent sentences, they hear a string of unrelated syllables. Aphasia also can affect the ability to make sense from the printed page.

There are few things more frustrating than to be unable to communicate with those around us. Patience and support from those around them are the best allies of those who have aphasia. Remember people with aphasia often can understand much more than they can communicate. Be careful to include aphasic people in conversations, even if they cannot seem to communicate. Prompt treatment by a specialist in speech, language and hearing is very important to help the person who has aphasia.

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No cover up: the first issue of the 50's plus magazine. The cover is not retouched to hide the wrinkles.

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FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

HAVE DOCTOR EXAMINE PAINFUL HEEL

QUESTION: I've got this terrible pain in my heel. What could be causing it and how do I deal with it?

ANSWER: There are a couple of possibilities — there may be an injury or inflammation to the tendons and surrounding tissues, or there may be a stress fracture in the bone of the heel. The best way to find out is to get a careful examination by your doctor, who can isolate the area of pain and make a diagnosis of its cause. Once the cause is found, it can be treated.

The Achilles tendon is often the site of injury, sometimes caused by nothing more than walking. The Achilles tendon is the major tendon to the heel, running down the back of the foot. Athletic activity can aggravate the problem. Often the best treatment is just resting the foot.

Older people often lose the fat pad from their heels, creating a hard, bony surface on which to walk. This causes pain. Again, it is aggravated by walking or running. Rest and an anti-inflammatory drug is often the only treatment necessary. Sometimes the foot is wrapped in a supportive bandage, to relieve pressure on the sore part.

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PEOPLE

By Sheila Tefft

NEW DELHI: For less than 10 cents a year, Sam Pitroda has taken on a formidable mission: upgrading India's outmoded, overloaded telephone system.

As one of India's new breed of technocrats, Satyen Gangaram "Sam" Pitroda shares the vision that technology can lead India into the 21st century.

"In five years, we will have modernised telecommunications of world standards," predicts Mr Pitroda, who left India more than 20 years ago and became a millionaire in the American telecommunications business.

"Already we see light at the end of the tunnel," he says. While he speaks, in the corner of his office an assistant is repeatedly dialling a phone number in an attempt to get a call through.

Horror stories about India telephone abound: Often it's difficult to get a dial tone. If a call does get through, it may reach the wrong number. Static or crossed connections frequently drown out conversations.

Many companies hire employees just to make phone calls and keep long-distance lines open. International calls are transmitted via satellite, but domestic long-distance calls get routed through equipment that, in some cases, is more than 50 years old. As a result, it's easier to call Bombay from overseas than from New Delhi.

Obtaining a telephone can take up to five years without knowing someone in the ponderous bureaucracy. More than 1 million hopefuls are on the waiting list. Bribes have to be paid for routine telephone repairs.

"I don't know why I even answer the telephone anymore because it's always a wrong number," fumes Gita Wimal, a government secretary, as the phone rings in her home. "Hello... Wrong number!"

In this country of 750 million people, there are only 3 million telephones, including 36,000 pay phones, the government reports. Ninety per cent of the phones are in cities, where only 25 per cent of the people live. (By comparison, the Soviet Union has 29 million phone connections for its 280 million people. The United States, of

India's guru of high-tech works for 8 cents a year

Sam Pitroda who left India more than 20 years ago and became a millionaire in the American telecommunication industry is helping Rajiv Gandhi overhaul the notorious phone system in India. However his brusque, unconventional style and blunt criticism of the establishment have alienated many who are suspicious of this high-tech guru in cowboy boots.



Sam Pitroda: a man in a hurry to change India.

course, outstrips both — with 92.4 per cent of homes having connections.)

In Bombay, known for having the best connections, only seven out of 10 phones work at any one time. New Delhi, the nation's capital, has six of 10 working at once. In Calcutta, three of 10 phones are operational.

Many Indians were amused — and privately applauded — when one exasperated government official took matters into his own hands about 18 months ago. Incensed when he could not get a call through to Bombay, Prakash Chand Sethi, a

member of Parliament, stormed down to the telephone exchange in August 1986. Pistol in hand, and reportedly drunk, Mr Sethi verbally abused the telephone operators and threatened the woman who failed to expedite his "VIP" call. Pandemonium reigned. Police eventually carried Sethi out; the outraged employees went on strike.

At one time (or another), says a local businessman, "most of us have felt like doing exactly what P. C. Sethi did."

Enter Sam Pitroda, after 22 years in the US. The 45-year-old electrical engineer had helped develop digital switching for General Telephone and Electric Co. (GTE) and later set up his own switching company with two partners.

When the firm was sold, Pitroda — who claims 90 patents ranging from telephone gadgetry to playing cards — stayed on as \$550,000 consultant. But the deal prohibited him from doing anything competitive in telecommunications for five years. So Pitroda turned elsewhere.

Having written a book on telecommunications in developing nations, Pitroda visited China, Brazil, and other

countries to spread his message that better communications are crucial to the Third World.

"I'm basically a technical man. But I've developed a little better feel for the larger goals of society," he says. "Information is not elitist. Telecommunications is as important as water, roads, agriculture."

When India set up a commission to modernise communications, Pitroda made a pitch to the late prime minister Indira Gandhi to overhaul the phone system.

His ideas that phones are not just for the rich, and India should develop its own telecommunications equipment rather than import caught the attention of Gandhi's son, Rajiv. When Rajiv succeeded his assassinated mother in 1984, Pitroda (by that time a US citizen), moved his family back to India to spearhead the telecommunications effort — for a salary of one rupee (about 8 cents) a year.

However, Pitroda is a man in a hurry in a country where change moves as slowly as the ox-carts that ply the roads. His brusque, unconventional style and blunt criticism of the establishment have alienated many. Some are suspicious of the Western management lingo that peppers his speech, and put off by his incongruous appearance: unruly hair, goatee, Western suit, cowboy boots.

The telephone bureaucracy and militant unions don't take kindly to Pitroda's call for change. Politicians are jealous of his closeness to Gandhi and fear he has political ambitions. Many are skeptical he can raise the \$40 million needed to expand the system to 30 million telephone lines and 3 million pay phones by 2000. They say he has overstated the achievements of his government-sponsored think-tank.

Still, Pitroda has met his goal of developing indigenous digital exchange equipment that can withstand India's heat and dust and be installed in rural areas. Recently, Gandhi rewarded him by expanding his purview to include all the prime minister's technology initiatives in education, water, energy, health, and transport.

Pitroda insists that change is coming to India despite resistance.

1988, The Christian Science Monitor.

Living with the heirs of Elsa

George Adamson, 82, continues his work with the wild animals in Kenya.

By Jeremy Gavron



George Adamson in his camp at Kora, where monkeys run in and out and rats rustle in the roof.

THE SIGN pinned to a thorn tree at the end of the dusty, bumpy airstrip leaves no doubt. "Stay by your plane," it says. "Lions on the road."

Once again, George Adamson has lions at Kora, the desolate bush camp on the Tana River that has been home to him and his cats for 17 years.

By the time Adamson's autobiography, *My Pride and Joy*, was published in 1986, the last of his lions, Koretta and her cubs, had crossed the Tana and disappeared. "I thought all the lions had gone forever," George says.

But here, as dusk falls over Kampi ya Simba (lion camp), a cough drifts from the bush and a dark shape pads up to the fence. It is Koretta, 11-year-old daughter of a lioness from Nairobi orphanage. With her are three cubs, aged about two, named Maggie, Denis and Boris by George during the Prime Minister's visit to Kenya in January.

These lions are in spirit, if not in blood, the heirs of Elsa, the lioness released by George and Joy Adamson, and the heroine of *Born Free*. Elsa was returned to the wild three decades ago and Joy herself was murdered at her home on Lake Naivasha in 1980. But over the years, George has raised and freed more than 30 lions.

Now aged 82, George has trouble breathing, but with his shoulder-length yellow hair and beard he still cuts a dashing figure. He retired from the game department 25 years ago and has lived out his retirement in the most isolated parts of Kenya. At Kampi ya Simba, he is six hours' drive from the nearest shops and his only contact with the outside world is on the radio security network.

After 17 years, the camp is still primitive: a few open huts enclosed by the high wire fence to keep the lions out. A dozen African servants tend the camp. Tony Fitzjohn, George's partner for many years, lives here now and again: and at any

one time there are usually two or three others, old friends and temporary helpers. George sleeps out under the stars and has the lower jaw of an elephant for a toilet seat.

The camp is a menagerie: vervet monkeys run in and out of the huts; squirrels eat nuts on the table; acacia rats rustle in the roof; vulturine guinea fowl and ugly marabou storks fight for corn; lizards scamper in the dust. Recently George had to blast the head off a seven-foot cobra which had got into the rubbish.

But it is the big yellow cats that are the heart of Kora. Sitting in the shade of his dining hut, while birds and squirrels dart for corn on the sandy floors, George explains: "When I was a game warden I shot more than 70 lions for duty, so when I retired I thought I would try to help them instead."

His helping has been controversial. Some people have criticised him for breeding maneaters — and the lions have, indeed, killed or wounded several people. But George believes much has been learned from his work and he has proved that lions born into captivity can be freed in the wild.

He continues to feed them, worried that otherwise they would kill Somali cattle, illegally grazed in the park, and would then be poisoned by the Somali herdsmen who are all over the reserve. Slowly the habitat is being destroyed and the wild animals — buffalo, kudu, eland, buck and more — are being pushed out.

Somalis or no, George would

still feed his lions now and again. Growe and her pride are utterly wild, yet they share an extraordinary friendship with him. On rare occasions, Growe has even taken meat from his hand.

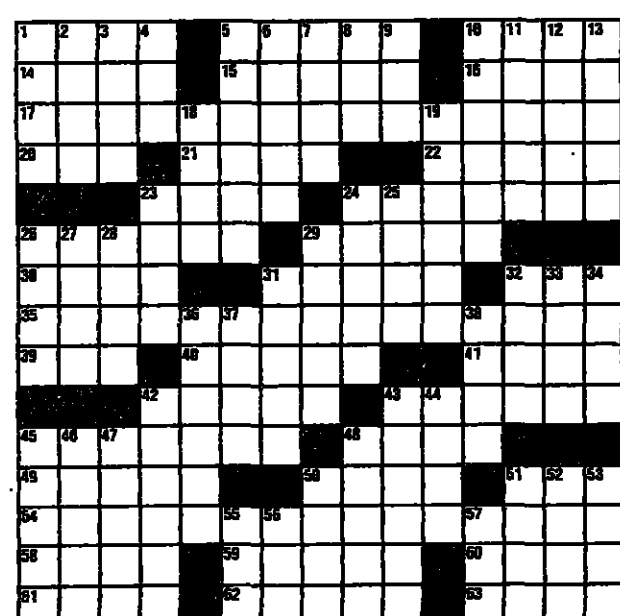
As George walks out into the dark towards the nine wild lions, he laughs when asked whether he is ever nervous. "Sometimes," he says. "But if they are intending some mischief I can usually tell." Usually, yes, but twice he has been badly mauled.

George believes that almost any wild creatures can be released from captivity. There are a couple of tigers in the Nairobi orphanage, confiscated while being smuggled from India, that he has his eyes on for Kora — only half jokingly.

The best news for George is that Perez Oindo, the much respected new director of wildlife in Kenya, has given him permission to release more lions at Kora — a decade after he was banned from introducing new lions to the reserve. A mother and half grown cub which had been attacking cattle in the Nairobi park have been captured and they are soon expected up at Kora.

"One gets so fond of the animals," George says, puffing his pipe beneath a large and beautiful photo of Koretta. "Then one day they go off and one may never see them again." But now, with Growe and Maggie and Denis and One-eye and the rest, George Adamson will probably have lions at Kora until, as he puts it, "I kick the bucket."

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Snow vehicle
 - 5 Stigmatize
 - 10 Long, narrative poem
 - 14 Flying prefix
 - 15 A Castle
 - 16 The Darlings' dog
 - 17 Certain favorites
 - 20 Compass dir.
 - 21 Olympian
 - 22 Money in the bank
 - 23 Red and Yellow
 - 24 Ornamental bands
 - 25 Small night birds
 - 29 "But war's" Cowper
 - 30 Palindromic title
 - 31 Flat Prefix
 - 32 Posed for a picture
 - 35 — and war
 - 39 Antique auto
 - 40 Discomforts
 - 41 Musical offering
 - 42 Room in a maison
 - 43 Sign of endearment
 - 45 Crimps again
 - 48 Pitcher's mound miscue
 - 49 Up straight
 - 50 Red chalcidony
 - 51 "— Rheingold"
 - 54 Good weather words
 - 58 Weight or Man, e.g.
 - 59 More than pleasantly plump
 - 60 Pro's opposite
 - 61 Miss Durbeyfield
 - 62 Detecting device
 - 63 "Iolanthe" role
- DOWN**
- 1 Sound's partner
 - 2 Lacking in richness
 - 3 Part of HOMES
 - 4 June bug
 - 5 Headwear for royal personages
 - 6 March sign
 - 7 Noun endings
 - 8 See 20 Across
 - 9 EMK
 - 10 Isolate
 - 11 Analyze grammatically
 - 12 Arm of the sea
 - 13 Throws
 - 14 Minute amount, in Scotland
 - 19 Humbug
 - 23 Truckers' rig
 - 24 Galatinous materials
 - 25 Rajah's mate
 - 26 General Bradley
 - 27 Ridge
 - 28 French composer
 - 29 Straighten
 - 31 Milk containers
 - 32 Mad as a wet hen
 - 33 Flara —
 - 34 Afternoon affairs
 - 36 City-state of old Greece
 - 37 Autumn
 - 38 Song bird
 - 42 Money, in Ecuador
 - 43 Lifelong pursuit
 - 44 Actor Alan
 - 45 Do a tailor's job
 - 46 Obliterate
 - 47 Overlays
 - 48 Light wood
 - 50 Hurried along
 - 51 Ballet's Peter
 - 52 Martini, for one
 - 53 Sweeten the pot
 - 54 Arouse
 - 55 Connecting word
 - 56 Business deg.
 - 57 Fall guy

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

SALAD USE DAG
TONE ROES SURA
AUPAIR GIRL IMAM
ISE GAIL ESTATE
RESENTS SEEKS
ASS ENTRAPS
DEBT SIOES ELF
EROS THIRD ERIE
WAS WHEAT CEDE
SCREEDS SCR
PAIRS SHOUTER
SIERRA EMEU AVE
ALAE PAREAPPLES
PURR YELL LEONE
SIS SEIT ERNIST

GOVERN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AKQ652 ♥6 ♦AJ10 ♣AKJ
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
2 ♠ Pass 2 NT 3 ♦

What action do you take?
A.—East's overall has given you two bites at the cherry. Since you have already told partner that you have a powerful hand with a long spade suit, now you should seize the opportunity to tell him about your diamond values. Double. Since you are behind the overcaller, this is primarily a penalty double.

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AKQ652 ♥AJ10 ♦6 ♣AKJ
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
2 ♠ Pass 2 NT 3 ♦

What action do you take?
A.—Don't tell the same story twice! You have already told partner about your strength and suit, and you can't quite guarantee game in your own hand, especially if partner is short in spades. Pass, and let partner decide whether to bid on or double.

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AKQ62 ♥A109 ♦K8 ♣AK
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
2 ♠ Pass 2 NT 3 ♦

A.—Since partner knows about your strength and suit, you should tell him about the balanced nature of your hand and your diamond stopper. Bid three no trump. Regardless of the lead, you rate to make nine tricks. And if no trump doesn't suit partner, he is free to correct.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠72 ♥AKJ73 ♦K95 ♣J42
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♥ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?
A.—Don't bid two hearts. Even if you play four-card majors, that action would promise a six-card heart suit in this sequence. Show your balanced hand by rebidding one no trump—after all, you almost have a club stopper.

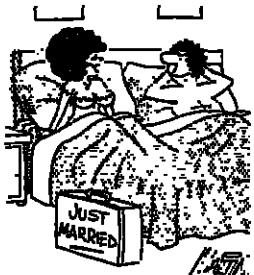
Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠J42 ♥AKJ73 ♦K95 ♣72
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♥ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?
A.—In the previous example, you rebid one no trump because you had no better action. Here, you have three-card support for partner's suit headed by a minor honor, and a ruffing value. Raise to two spades. You don't have to have four-card support for this action.

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠9 ♥AKJ1042 ♦AKJ6 ♣72
Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?
A.—You make a jump shift on one of two types of hand: Where you have support for partner's suit; or where your own suit is self-sufficient. That certainly describes your heart holding, and since your hand is strong enough, jump to two hearts. The fact that you hold a good second suit should not deter you from making the value bid.



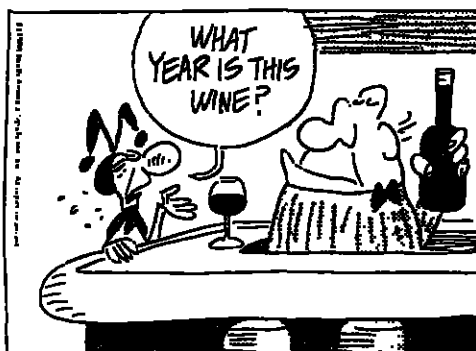
"If you're coming to the match — for goodness sake wear something sensible!"



"It's getting late. We'd better get dressed and go to the reception."

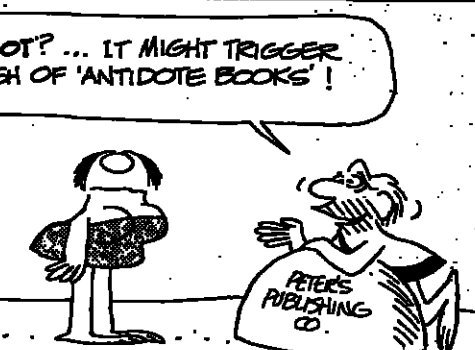
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will be able to do something to improve your financial situation. Avoid doing anything too drastic just now. Make sure you do not feel cold. Be more considerate.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will find it a little more difficult to make up your mind. You should be ready to admit it if you are wrong. Do not do anything that would be deemed to be unjust. Be contemplative.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will have a lot to do and should not allow your attention to stray. Avoid delays so far as possible. There is no need to be daunted by the difficulties. Be a little more affectionate.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

The Moon's more favourable influence will help you to keep out of trouble. You should not allow yourself to be distracted. Avoid having your mind on more than one thing at a time. Be moderate.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

The influence of the Moon will help you to be a little more audacious. You should not neglect your cultural interests. Do not bear a grievance. Be sincere.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You will feel in top form but there is a tendency towards excessive exuberance. You will be able to do something you have long wanted to do. Try to avoid wasting money. Be lenient.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You will tend to overestimate your own abilities. You should make sure you are able to meet your commitments. Do not permit a divergence between what you say and what you do. Be consistent.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You should do your utmost to avoid complications. Beware of eating more than you need to maintain your weight. You should do all you can to preserve your peace of mind. Be more frugal.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You should not expect others to do just what you ask them to do. Make sure you do not do anything that might give offense. Ensure your car mirrors are properly adjusted. Be generous.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You are subject to various influences and should avoid taking unnecessary risks. You should not allow negative thoughts to predominate. Act a little more slowly but a lot more surely.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will find it easier to concentrate and should do so. You must not expect to have it all your own way. Love should take first place today. Be optimistic.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

Syria's Turkish baths — a haven for modern aches

By Hala Jaber

DAMASCUS. (Reuters): Steam coils through the tiled chambers of the old Turkish baths of Damascus as muscular attendants soap and pummel the backs of their willing victims.

When the chill of the Syrian winter starts to bite, the ancient baths still beckon tired workers to a warm haven where they can relax aching, knotted muscles. The public steam-rooms, built when few private houses had bathrooms, are even popular with mothers hunting brides for their sons and they are used as venues for stag and hen parties.

Hundreds of Turkish baths, some dating from the 18th century, still operate in Syria and provide a service fit for a king of old — or for the princes who still come.

"The minute you walk in you feel you have entered another world, that of folklore, tradition, relaxation, warmth and cleanliness," said Ziad Squelli, 25, a frequent visitor.

Bright and colourful Syrian carpets and antique brasswork adorn the public baths and the old wooden benches are covered with hand-made rugs.

The ritual begins with a choice of soap and a fibrous loofah made of horse-tail.

The bather strips in the Barani (salon), an outer chamber, and enters the world of steam in the inside chamber, the Jowani.

Visions blur as clouds of steam fill the chamber and the body slips into sensations of relaxation, warmth and drowsiness.

"You can feel your body perspire, your muscles relax and your pores open wider to let out accumulated dirt that can not otherwise be cleaned or seen," Squelli added.

After the session in the steam room, which often echoes to old Arabic songs cheerily belted out by young men, the customer is taken to a small chamber like cubicle and handed over to the Mualem or master.

The Mualem sits opposite on the warm, tiled floor and begins



Mualem Ahmed scrubs a customer at Nour El-Dine Turkish bath in the old Damascus Bzourieh souq.

to scrub, pummel, rub and squeeze the body with the fibrous loofah, while buckets of hot steamy water from stone basins are poured over the bather.

The Mualem, leaning on a pile of cushions, manipulates the back, starting from the neck and slowly moving downwards, as he massages the client's aching muscles.

"The feeling is sensational, sometimes the sponge hurts as its fibres bite into your body," Khaled Walid said after a bath. "But you can feel each pore, cell and muscle in your body come alive as your blood seeps through the veins from the vigorous scrubbing," he said.

Gently The bather is next gently sponged with foaming soap and his hair washed about seven times before he goes back to the Barani.

Wrapped from head to foot in dry towels, he lies on a bench sipping hot tea, coffee, herbal or soft drinks until his body temperature returns to normal.

The whole procedure costs up to 50 Syrian pounds (two US dollars).

The Turkish public baths catered for the rich as well as the workers and are still patronised, though less often, by Syrian officials, Western diplomats and foreign tourists.

"We still get princes from Gulf countries, Syrian and other Arab ministers, and foreign diplomats," said the manager of Nour El-Dine Turkish bath in the old Damascus Bzourieh Souq.

"The foreigners range from diplomats of the European embassies in Damascus to troops from the United Nations."

Although women's Turkish baths have the same character and services as the men's, the ladies have their own social rituals.

They visit for an outing or to socialise with friends and neighbours and will spend much of the day chatting and catching up on the latest gossip.

On such occasions the women take packed lunches which they spread in the Barani and share together. Births and weddings also provide excuses for a social gathering at the baths.

Are you ageing well?

Would you do anything to turn back your body clock? Do you dream of immortality and buy buckets of skin tonic? Or are you happy to age gracefully... believing grey is distinguished? Try this quiz and find out if Old Father Time is your friend or foe.

By Jenny Pulling

DO you scan your face in a magnifying glass each morning terrified of finding a new wrinkle — or do you believe that the years simply increase character?

Does your next birthday fill you with fear? Or will it mean the passing of just another year? And if someone suggests you look tired, do you put it down to looking your age? Or do you believe old age is the beautiful autumn of your life?

Do this fun quiz and discover if merely the thought of growing old withers you...

1. You read an article about the rejuvenating effect of monkey gland injections. What is your reaction?

(a) You're sceptical. Even if they DO work, it must be temporary.

(b) You don't believe in any method for holding back old age.

(c) You'd be willing to spend your last penny on such a treatment.

(d) As long as the lines are laughter lines, does it really matter?

2. You meet and rather like someone who is a few years younger than yourself. Would you:

(a) Enjoy today but don't expect the relationship to last.

(b) See yourself as a father or mother figure.

(c) Do everything in your power to portray the image of a younger person.

(d) Relax, telling yourself that if they like you they will accept you?

3. If someone asks how many candles they should put on your birthday cake, do you:

(a) Retort that it is a personal question you are not going to answer.

(b) Subtract five years — ask for five less candles.

(c) Tell the truth.

(d) Pretend you didn't hear?

4. Looking ahead to the next decade, how do you view it?

(a) Just another milestone.

(b) You don't think about it.

(c) One by which you hope you've achieved something.

(d) You've got to pack in a hell of a lot of living by then?

5. You go to your doctor for a check up and he says: "Yes you're fine for your age". Do you:

(a) Reply with a smile that you're not exactly an antique yet.

(b) Demand: "What's my age got to do with it?"

(c) Start yourself on a punishing keep-fit regime.

(d) Feel relieved and thank him for saying that?

6. You apply for a job and a younger person is chosen. What is your first reaction?

(a) Assume they must be better qualified than yourself.

(b) It only confirms your views that firms are going for younger people.

(c) Feel the successful candidates had age on their side but your experience is invaluable.

(d) Tell yourself you would be wasting your time applying for any similar job.

7. You find your first grey hair. Do you:

(a) Pull it out.

(b) Dye your hair to make sure the first grey hair is the last.

(c) Persuade yourself that grey hair is distinguished.

(d) Accept that we must all turn grey-haired sometime?

8. Do you choose your clothes primarily:

(a) To make you look younger.

(b) To follow the latest fashion, even if it is very youthful.

(c) To suit your age.

(d) To suit you.

9. You are at a gathering of

people who are younger than yourself. Do you:

(a) Match your behaviour to theirs.

(b) Just be yourself.

(c) Let your hair down and act young.

(d) Think they might be interested to talk to an older person?

10. You meet someone you haven't seen for years. Which remark would you expect/hope for?

(a) You haven't changed at all.

(b) I wouldn't have recognised you.

(c) You look well.

(d) You look as if life has treated you well?

11. Which word would you prefer to be used to describe yourself at this stage in your life?

(a) Evergreen.

(b) Interesting.

(c) Attractive.

(d) Understanding?

12. Someone younger than yourself mentions music you before your time but asks if you recall it. Do you:

(a) Briskly remind them you are much too young.

(b) Jokingly tell them that you were not even a twinkle in your father's eye.

(c) Tell them plainly you were not born then.

(d) Say you don't remember it?

13. You crack a joke at a party and are told it is as old as the hills. What is your reaction?

(a) Tell yourself you won't bother to have a sense of humour if you are going to be put in the same category as your jokes.

(b) Joke again: "Did you know my middle name is Methusalem?"

(c) Retort: "Yes, maybe, but have you ever heard it told so well."

(d) Swot up on the latest jokes?

14. Your hairdresser tells you that the style you want is very old-fashioned. Do you:

(a) Tell them to create the latest 'in' style.

(b) Keep to the style you choose, regardless.

(c) Listen to their advice, feeling a has-been.

(d) Ask them to adapt a more modern style suitable to



your age?

15. You are going abroad with someone younger than yourself. Do you:

(a) Keep your passport under lock and key.

(b) Attempt to alter the birthdate.

(c) Let them see the passport in case they saw it accidentally.

(d) It doesn't cross your mind to think about it?

16. A friend's small child pipes up "Mummy says you look like mutton dressed up as lamb". Do you:

(a) Challenge the friend and ask her what she meant.

(b) Tell the child that grown ups say silly things sometimes.

(c) Shun your friend for a time and wonder if she is a friend at all.

(d) Put it down to childish innocence and joke with your friend about it?

HOW TO SCORE

1. (a) 5. (b) 3. (c) 10. (d) 0.

2. (a) 5. (b) 3. (c) 10. (d) 0.

3. (a) 10. (b) 5. (c) 0. (d) 3.

4. (a) 0. (b) 5. (c) 3. (d) 10.

5. (a) 3. (b) 5. (c) 10. (d) 0.

6. (a) 0. (b) 5. (c) 3. (d) 10.

7. (a) 5. (b) 10. (c) 3. (d) 0.

8. (a) 10. (b) 5. (c) 0. (d) 3.

9. (a) 5. (b) 0. (c) 10. (d) 3.

10. (a) 10. (b) 5. (c) 3. (d) 0.

11. (a) 10. (b) 0. (c) 5. (d) 3.

12. (a) 10. (b) 0. (c) 5. (d) 3.

13. (a) 5. (b) 0. (c) 3. (d) 10.

14. (a) 10. (b) 3. (c) 5. (d) 0.

15. (a) 5. (b) 10. (c) 3. (d) 0.

16. (a) 10. (b) 0. (c) 5. (d) 3.

If your score is between 120-

160: You obviously have a full-time battle on your hands keeping those dreaded years at bay. You tend to turn a personal attack. On the credit side, you have a lively mind interested in new developments. If you could enjoy living each day to the full and stop watching the clock you'll stay young at heart for years.

If your score is between 80-120: You make a very good attempt to overcome those fears of age but the bogey man is there, in the background, waiting to pounce, the moment your guard is down. Look him in the face, learn to change what you can, accept what you can't. Realise that we are all vulnerable to the passing years to some extent.

If your score is between 40-80: You admit that old age frightens you and in an attempt to beat it at its own game, you have decided to meet it more than half way. Relax, don't get old before your time — age may not be as close as you think.

If your score is under 40: You are well-balanced, attuned to the natural pattern of life that you don't see any reason why you should anticipate old age. You move with the time at a gentle pace and will be well prepared for age when it does come.

Back to the future ... and the past

Hundreds of people can look into the future or recall events that happened hundreds of years ago, simply by touching objects or visiting historic places. Mostly, they don't even know they're doing it!

informed her that her ancestors were Huguenots and some had been punished by being sent to the galleys.

In his new book about such fascinating mysteries, specialist of the paranormal, Colin Wilson, maintains that Mrs O'Neill's "time slip" experiences are not unique.

"There are dozens — perhaps hundreds — of other recorded examples," he says. "The most famous is undoubtedly that of the two English ladies, Eleanor Jourdain and Charlotte Moberly, who in August 1901, while walking in the gardens at Versailles, near Paris, found themselves back in the Versailles of 1789, just before the downfall of Louis XVI."

"They saw men and women dressed in the styles of those days, at first believing they had stumbled upon a rehearsal for some costume drama. When the scene faded before their eyes they realised they had not."

"And it must be said that these two ladies, principals of an Oxford College, were of unquestioned integrity," says

Wilson.

In another case, a Norwich teacher, Anne May, was leaning against a large standing stone at the Clava Cairns, near Inverness, Scotland, when she saw a group of men in shaggy tunics and cross-gartered trousers, dragging a similar stone over the turf. When a party of tourists arrived the figures vanished.

Apparently, says Wilson, Mrs May had caught a glimpse of the original Bronze Age builders of the monolithic circle.

It is suggested that it was her bodily contact with the ancient standing stone which was the trigger that brought about the time slip.

Wilson also mentions the experience of a girl named Louise Hand who, while visiting her grandmother, walked into the cottage to find the place puzzlingly full of different, older furniture. Thinking she had gone into the wrong house, she went outside to check, then went back in. Still the room was different. But when she went in for the third time everything was back to normal.



At the Versailles Palace, Paris, in 1901, Eleanor Jourdain and Charlotte Moberly found themselves back in 1789, just before the downfall of Louis XVI.

It is also possible, it seems, to slip the other way, into the future. Like the man held up in a traffic jam in an East Anglian town who noticed that a laundrette which had been under construction was now completed and full of customers.

When he got home he told his wife and next day she went there with a bag of dirty laundry... to find the place still unfinished.

The man had seen the shop as it was to be six weeks later.

Wilson adds: "A schoolteacher, lying in bed with a high temperature, had an odd hallucination involving hedgehogs walking around the bedroom floor, and building a high nest with sticks and straw."

Glimpses

"Three months later he was packing ceramic figures made by his pottery class to take them to the kiln. He packed them in a kind of layered nest, with straw between the layers."

"Several ceramic hedgehogs were on the floor around his feet. Suddenly, he recalled his hallucination which had now, in effect, become reality."

had been tall and thin.

Further research, however, revealed that the dictator Sulla had also once owned the villa and the psychic's description accurately fitted him.

A fascinating theory is that objects can act as primitive "tape recorders," having had imprinted on them in some electromagnetic way the pictures of past events.

"These 'recordings' can be picked up from them, it seems, by a person who is sensitive to them — for example, by a good dowser," says Wilson.

According to the man who invented the word psychometry, an American doctor named Joseph Buchanan, it is an ability we all possess, although most of us have subconsciously suppressed it.

Professor Buchanan became involved in the middle of last century when he met Bishop Leonidas Polk who claimed he could always detect brass when he touched it — even in the dark — because it produced a peculiar taste in his mouth.

Buchanan discovered that the bishop had a certain "bump of sensibility" on his skull. He decided to perform scientific tests on students who had a similar bump.

Various metals were wrapped in paper and the professor was delighted to discover that many of his students could detect accurately particular metals simply by pressing their fingertips against the paper.

They could also distinguish wrapped substances such as salt, sugar, pepper and vinegar. He came to the conclusion that there is a "nerve aura" in the fingertips of some people which induces tastes on the tongue related to what is being touched.

One of his best subjects, Charles Imman, was even able to sense the contents of sealed letters and give an accurate assessment of the character of the writers.

The Encyclopaedia of Unsolved Mysteries — Harp — £12.95



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KUWAIT UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ENG. & PETROLEUM

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Department of Civil Engineering of Kuwait University is pleased to invite engineers and researchers to a lecture titled:

"Integrated Ponding Systems For the Treatment of Wastewater"

Speakers: Dr. Kozmer Boushoush — Researcher
Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research

Dr. Ismail Ezen — Associate Professor
Civil Engineering Department
Kuwait University
Monday, 21st March, 1988
6:30 P.M.
University Faculty Club — Shuwaikh

KUWAIT UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ARTS
Department of English

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Cultural Committee of the Department of English has pleasure in inviting you to the following Seminar:

1- Dr. Mahmoud Ayad: "The Teaching of Translation at Kuwait University."
2- Dr. M.A. Sa'adeh: "Towards a Model for Pre-translating Text Analysis".

Date: Sunday, March 20
Time: 6:30 P.M.
Place: Bldg. 5 Room 312 (opposite English Department Bldg. Shuwaikh).

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KUWAIT NATIONAL PETROLEUM COMPANY K.S.C.

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Tender No.	Material	Tender Fee	Issuing Date	Closing Date
PR/04	1-Clocks 2-Wrist watches 3-Calculators	KD.2/-	19/3/88	4/4/88

(Kuwait oil firm imprinted on each)
(in five colours)

Tender documents can be purchased from the office of the Superintendent Administration Services, KNPC Head Offices, as from 19/3/1988.

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1/9903	Gaskets	KD. 2/-	28.3.1988
1/9907	Steam Trap	KD. 2/-	28.3.1988
1/9910	Nuts & Bolts	KD. 2/-	28.3.1988
1/9915	Chemicals (Acid)	KD. 2/-	28.3.1988
1/9920	Chemicals (Emulsion)	KD. 2/-	28.3.1988

Tender documents can be purchased from the Administration Services Dept. at KNPC Head Office from 21.3.1988

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Bond issue aims to preserve Kuwait's valuable foreign assets

New mood of optimism seen in stock market

By M.C. Bose

THE governor of Kuwait's Central Bank Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah has said movements in share prices, when purged of speculative volatility, generally reflect the degree of confidence in the performance of the economy and the impact of economic policy measures.

Several factors have combined to encourage optimism about Kuwaiti share prices, such as: the regulatory structure of the stock market, the various monetary policy measures of the past year and a general sense that the period of economic stagnation that lasted from 1983 to 1986 is finally coming to an end.

Sheikh Salem told the Arab Times in an exclusive interview that the settlement programme

for non-performing loans has largely resolved the debt problem as a major issue confronting the economic management of Kuwait, and has allowed the monetary and other authorities to concentrate on other important financial and economic policy measures.

Profitability

In addition, the debt problem had also threatened the banks' profitability and therefore their vital role as financial intermediaries for the economy. Resolving the issue will allow the banks to resume their natural role in the economy both in intermediation and as part of one of our most important productive economic sectors.

Moreover, the debt problem created an atmosphere of uncertainty about the future of shares



Sheikh Salem

and real-estate markets, in view of the large size of loan collateral held by the banks in the form of shares and real estate.

Now, these two important markets will be ready to respond, through the normal mechanisms, to various policy measures.

Sheikh Salem added: "As you know, the economy is integrated, in the sense that developments in any sector tend to impact other sectors either directly or indirectly. The overall impact of the debt issue, therefore, spread throughout the economy. Now, I believe the debt issue has finished as a threat to the performance of the economy. It is a major obstacle removed from the economy's path. I believe this will be reflected in a positive way in the economic developments over the coming period."

Sheikh Salem said the public debt issue is a most important development in Kuwaiti public finance. That is especially so because the decision on the issu-

ing of debt instruments (treasury-bills and bonds) was taken with a view to achieving several fiscal-monetary goals. Clearly the government could have resorted to drawing from its reserves to finance the budget deficit.

Goals

However, it was decided to resort to this new method of deficit financing in order to achieve several goals, such as utilising domestic private savings, diversifying the financial markets, opening new channels for monetary policy through open-market operations, and preserving the country's valuable foreign assets.

The issues have been quite successful, with demand far exceeding the amounts announced for every issue by the Central Bank

which indicates the availability of liquidity in the market and the need for diversification of the financial market.

The governor said public spending is the major variable of the Kuwaiti economy. Developments in the oil market and in our balance of trade, influence the domestic economy through the government budget. Also, as in most other countries, budget developments could make the difference between economic recovery and recession, taking into consideration the stance of monetary policy.

In Kuwait, the authorities are committed to a programme of building the infrastructure and providing the necessary stimulus to the various domestic economic sectors. In view of these goals, the size of the 1987/1988 budget was reasonable.

Sotheby's planning stock flotation

LONDON, March 20. (AP): The public may be able to buy shares this spring in Sotheby's, the world's richest art auction house said yesterday.

A statement from the US-owned private company said the share flotation will be in London and New York.

The flotation was originally planned for last fall but was postponed when stock markets crashed in October.

"Since the stock market downturn ... the international art market has remained strong, with record prices continuing to be set in many collecting areas," the statement said.

The announcement followed swiftly on a report in London's Evening Standard newspaper that the flotation is planned for late April and values the firm at "slightly less than £300 million" (\$346 million).

That was £100 million (\$182 million) less than the pre-crash valuation, the report added.

Alfred Taubman, the Michigan shopping mall tycoon, gained control of Sotheby's in September 1983 at a cost of \$83 million (then \$124.5 million).

Sotheby's said a spring flotation would depend on "favourable stock market conditions" and no definite sale date was set.

The Evening Standard said a complex share-voting structure is planned which would leave control with Taubman.

Sotheby's is being advised on the flotation by the Wall Street house of Salomon Bros. and British merchant bank Lazards.

UK GNP growth is forecast to continue strong

THE market waited in quiet anticipation for the US trade numbers announced on Thursday. The upshot of better than expected figures buoyed dollar sentiment to push the unit up marginally on the week to DM1.69, ¥128 and £1.83. The Federal Reserve continues to be content with its current policy with the Fed funds rate remaining unchanged at middle 6.5 per cent.

Business inventories rose 0.4 per cent in January to a seasonally adjusted \$705.85 billion following a revised increase of 0.9 per cent in December. The market had been expecting a slightly higher increase of 0.8 per cent.

The current account deficit narrowed to \$38.99 billion in the October to December fourth quarter following a deficit of \$43.44 billion in the third quarter. The overall deficit for 1987 rose to a record \$160.69 billion compared with a \$141.35 billion deficit in 1986.

However, this was better than the \$45.5 billion deficit anticipated by the market.

Increase

Industrial production rose a modest 0.2 per cent in February following a revised increase in December and January of 0.1 per cent bringing the annual growth rate to 4 per cent. This figure was slightly higher than market expectations of 0.1 per cent.

Housing starts up 9 per cent to an annual rate of 1,494,000 units. This compares with a fall of 15.8 per cent in January and 1.9 per cent in February. Markets were expecting a slightly higher figure of 1,500,000 units. This increase

was partly due to the lowering of interest rates.

Merchandise trade deficit rose to \$12.44 billion in January following a \$12.20 billion deficit in December. Exports fell by 10 per cent to \$22.33 billion while imports fell by 6.0 per cent to \$34.77 billion in January from \$4.79 billion in December and was the lowest level since December 1986. This was slightly better than forecast of a \$13.6 billion deficit.

For the interim the market's interpretation of better trade numbers, whilst unlikely to take the dollar significantly higher, will underpin the current trading bands providing medium term support.

Correction

However, it should be recognised that January's \$12.4 billion trade gap was largely influenced by seasonally factors with 1987's figure exactly mirroring this year's outcome. Seasonally adjusted the numbers could have been up another \$2.0 billion higher. Of equal concern is the fall of exports by 10 per cent to \$22.3 billion. We have long argued that whilst the anticipated turn around in US trade does indicate that the deficit has reached its nadir a sustained improvement has yet to materialise. Annualising January's number still represents a sizeable investment and saving distortion of over \$145 billion.

Longer term, therefore, as the realised correction to the deficit is liable to fall far short of market expectations, the dollar's vulnerability remains very much in play.

US trading ranges this week

are expected to be \$/DM1.67-1.72 and £/\$1.81-1.88.

As anticipated in the run-up to the budget and in its aftermath sterling continued to surge ahead breaking in the Middle East market's at DM3.10. This has subsequently prompted an apparent policy reversal and much to the market's surprise the Bank of England cut its money market lending rate by half a percentage point leading similar reductions in bank base rates. This action would appear to indicate that DM3.10 is now considered to be the new ceiling. Against the dollar, sterling currently trades at £/\$1.83 and yen 237. On a trade-weighted basis the UK unit has moved ahead to 77.4.

Overall the budget for fiscal 1988/89 announced last week was broadly neutral as the market expected. (A £4 billion tax cut plus a debt repayment of £3 billion is equivalent to the £7 billion plus public sector surplus). GNP growth is forecast to continue strong at 3 per cent with inflation at 4 per cent, whilst the current account deficit is projected to deteriorate to £4 billion. GNP numbers appear to be realistic and inflation, although possibly edging above target, will remain under control.

Increase

However, the external deficit looks optimistic with the general market consensus expecting an outcome of over £5 billion for the year.

Retail sales rose a provisional, seasonally adjusted 0.1 per cent in February following a revised increase in January 1.1 per cent. The February figure was 9.0 per

cent higher than a year earlier on a non-adjusted, value basis although it was marginally lower than the 0.2 forecasted.

PPI input fell an unadjusted 0.9 per cent in February following a revised 0.6 per cent increase in January giving a provisional year on year rise of 3.9 per cent. The market had been expecting a larger fall of 2.0 per cent.

Drop

PPI output rose 0.5 per cent in February following a downward revised 0.6 per cent rise in January giving a year on year gain of 4 per cent. The market had been expecting a slightly lower rise of 0.3 per cent.

Industrial production fell a provisional 0.6 per cent in January after a downward revised 0.3 per cent in December. The market forecast was anticipating a slightly lower drop of 0.4 per cent. The mild weather in January contributed to this fall because there was reduced demand in the energy sector.

Unemployment fell 9.1 per cent in February to a seasonally adjusted 33,400 following a downward revised 9.2 per cent fall to 49,200 in January. The February unemployment level was the lowest for six years and was better than the 40,000 fall anticipated by the market.

Average earnings rose as expected to 8.5 per cent in January on a seasonally adjusted basis unchanged from December's upward revised level. The index average earnings stood at 209.5 in January compared with 208.0 in December.

PSBR showed a £500 million surplus in February compared

with the £400 million deficit forecast. February's surplus brings the government's total surplus for the first eleven months of this financial year to £7 billion.

Bank lending rose a seasonally adjusted £1.31 billion in February following a £2.3 billion rise in January. The market was expecting a much larger rise of £3.0 billion.

Whether Chancellor Nigel Lawson has now successfully re-established his paramount objective of a stable exchange rate remains to be seen with inflationary indicators still coming in strong. Undoubtedly the reversal may only serve to make sterling far more volatile with markets, in the short-term, likely to significantly test sterling's upper limits. Trading ranges this week are expected to be £/DM3.08-3.15 and £/\$1.81-1.88.

Optimistic

A further cut in base rates of half a percentage point cannot be ruled out. Irrespective of buoyant economic indicators upward pressure on sterling could be significant.

The outlook for the German economy is now more optimistic as exports and new orders together with consumer demand continue to strengthen. GNP growth targets are currently predicted to be in the region of 1.5-2 per cent aided by recent unusually mild weather conditions, increased and foreign sales.

Provided by National Bank of Kuwait's weekly market review.

World Business Summary

Reagan forms working group on stock, futures markets

WASHINGTON, March 20. (Reuter): President Reagan issued an executive order yesterday creating an inter-agency working group to make recommendations to avoid a recurrence of last October's stock market crash, the White House said.

Spokesman Martin Fitzwater said in a statement that Treasury Secretary James Baker would lead a working group that would also include the chairmen of the Federal Reserve Board, the securities and exchange commission and the commodities futures trading commission.

Reagan, Fitzwater said, asked the group to review the need for new legislation to regulate markets and to sort out conflicting conclusions reached in studies on the crash.

"In view of the extraordinary events in the financial markets in 1987 and the findings of the numerous market studies ... it is clear that further, closely coordinated work needs to be done," Fitzwater said. Reagan's spokesman said the working group would seek to "ensure the continued integrity, competitiveness and efficiency" of US financial markets and to maintain the public's confidence in those markets.

Fitzwater said the working group would consult with the exchanges, clearing houses and major market participants. It would also consult Congress. Formation of the inter-agency working group was expected and came two and a half months after a presidential task force headed by Wall Street financier Nicholas Brady delivered its report on October's financial crisis.

Brady's report, which recommended that the Federal Reserve Board be given sweeping new powers over stock and futures markets, was given a lukewarm reception in the White House. Some of Reagan's advisers, including Council of Economic Advisers chairman Beryl Sprinkel, are known to be opposed to expanding federal regulations over financial markets. Studies of the October crash by the SEC, the CFTC, the New York Stock Exchange and the Chicago Mercantile Exchange reached widely divergent conclusions on what fuelled the plunge in stock and futures prices and what should be done.

Brazil needs \$1.8b to resume debt interest payments

CARACAS, Venezuela, March 20. (AP): Brazil said today it needs up to \$1.8 billion from commercial banks if it is to resume interest payments on a large portion of its \$114-billion foreign debt. Finance Minister Malson Da Nobrega, who is in Caracas for an Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) assembly, said that without a bridge loan Brazil will be forced to continue until at least June its yearlong moratorium on \$68 billion of commercial bank debt. Creditors had hoped the moratorium was over when they reached basic agreement with Brazil in February on a \$67.8-billion multi-year refinancing package that was to include \$5 billion in new loans.

"Brazil does not have the reserves to pay the second quarter. That is why we are asking for the bridge loan," Nobrega said, his spokeswoman Rosa Maria Delfino told the Associated Press in an interview. Nobrega was scheduled to meet late Saturday with Citicorp vice-president William Rhodes, who heads Brazil's debt negotiating committee; Michael Hunter, of Lloyds Bank; Leighton Coleman, of Morgan; and the US assistant secretary of the treasury for international affairs, David Mulford, to discuss Brazil's latest cash crisis.

He met with Brazilian reporters covering the bank assembly early Saturday. According to Nobrega, Brazil paid \$994 million of its first quarter interest payments but still owes another \$270 million to cancel the bill through March.

Brazil owes another 1.5 billion for the second quarter, he said. Before departing Brasilia on Friday, Nobrega said the moratorium had been called to allow Brazil to accumulate foreign reserves but that "it did not have its desired effect."

He also said the moratorium would continue if no agreement was reached with banks to permit the payment of interest.

Brazil's crisis comes as the 44 member nations of the IADB gather to discuss what one delegate called "a crisis of organisational development" in defining the bank's role in Latin America, which as a region owes \$400 billion to foreign creditors.

IADB meets internal conflicts and debt crisis unresolved

CARACAS, March 20. (Reuter): Latin America renews a long-standing battle with Washington over lending to the debt-racked region when the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) opens its annual meeting here on Monday.

Latin American officials see the meeting, which is Mexican Antonio Ortiz Mena's last as president after 17 years in office, as marking a crossroads in inter-regional financial relations that have proved difficult since the debt crisis began 5-1/2 years ago.

"This is a new game, a new story, and we are going in with no pre-conceived ideas or strategy," a senior banker from one Latin American member country told Reuters.

More than 1,000 bankers and finance officials from the IADB's 44 member countries are expected to take part in the three-day meeting, which will be preceded by a series of committee meetings.

A simmering two-year dispute over control of the IADB has until now hindered the 29-year-old lending institution in playing an active role in helping Latin American debtors.

Strategy to manage Latin

America's \$410-billion debt crisis has also taken new directions, with the end of Brazil's defiant 11-month debt moratorium and a tepid response from banks to Mexico's innovative plan for debt relief last month.

Mexico's chief debt negotiator Angel Gurría said in a speech this week that lack of understanding by creditors had risked "an imminent confrontation with debtor governments unable to neglect their people's needs any longer."

Burden

Though Latin America reduced its debt service burden last year to 31 per cent of exports from 36 per cent in 1986, per capita growth fell to 0.5 per cent from 1.4 per cent.

"Latin American countries cannot fulfil their commitments in connection with foreign debt unless there is growth in the region," Ortiz Mena said in Washington this month.

There will be some important contacts at the Caracas meeting, with Brazilian officials negotiating final details of a \$67-billion debt restructuring that marks the country's rehabilitation by the international financial community.

Brazil has also lined up \$5.8 billion in new loans with interest rate terms equal to the best achieved last year by Mexico and Argentina.

But commercial bank lending to Third World countries has in general remained minimal since the debt crisis began, despite the much-vaunted launching of the Baker plan in 1985.

US Treasury Secretary James Baker proposed \$29 billion in new loans to 15 debtor countries, tied to growth-oriented programmes and fiscal discipline.

The major debtors — Brazil, Mexico and Argentina — have all since then gone through major financial crises but banks have been unwilling to lend new money.

Last month's failure of Mexico's debt-for-bonds scheme to attract more than token interest is seen by many Latin American officials as a setback for more imaginative ways to overcome the crisis.

Bolivia has done better with its own debt buy-back scheme, with banks offering to sell almost 50 per cent of the \$670-million debt at just 11 cents in the dollar.

Sino-British legal link to boost trade

BEIJING, March 20. (Xinhua): China and Britain are developing links in the field of economic legislation to obtain a clearer understanding of each other and push bilateral trade to a new level, said Gu Ming, president of the Research Centre of Economic Laws under the state council.

The British Law Association has agreed to help China train 10 lawyers a year in the study of Britain's economic laws and regulations, he said in an interview with China Daily.

According to an agreement between law organisations in the two countries, representatives of

lawyers from both sides will gather in Beijing in April to discuss problems in economic co-operation between them.

Regulations

Britain has also decided to send representatives to China to study the country's economic laws and regulations.

The agreements were reached between the two countries earlier this year when a Chinese economic law delegation headed by Gu Ming visited Britain.

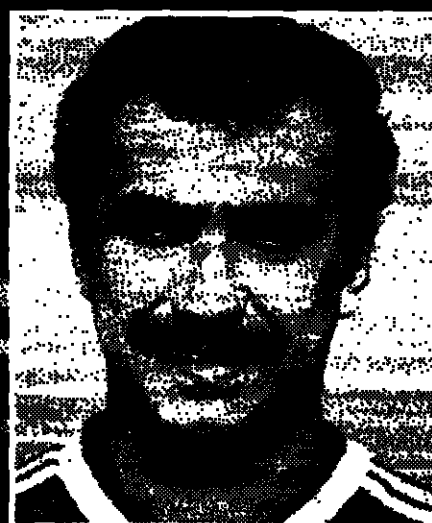
The British counterparts highly appreciated achievements China has made in economic legislation, especially in patent law which has attracted more than

50,000 applications from both China and abroad in the last two and a half years, Gu said.

Meanwhile, China has passed more than 200 foreign-related economic laws and statutes since 1979 when it began to open to the outside world.

By the end of 1987, foreign businessmen from 37 countries and regions had invested in China. The country had approved more than 10,000 foreign-funded enterprises, including more than 4,600 Sino-foreign joint ventures, 5,190 co-operative enterprises and 138 enterprises with sole foreign investment.

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Team visits Arab states

Turkey proposes water project for Gulf

ABU DHABI, March 20. (Reuters) A team of Turkish experts is touring Arab states to discuss a multi-billion dollar project to divert water from two of its rivers to solve the chronic water shortage in Gulf states.

Traversing thousands of miles through Syria and Jordan, the pipeline project was first mooted in 1986, according to Necati Utkan, deputy director-general of economic affairs at the Turkish Foreign Ministry.

Surplus

Dubbed the water peace project, it would involve pumping six million cubic metres of water a day through two pipelines into eight Arab states, including six in the Gulf.

"We found out that we had a

surplus of around 16 million cubic metres of water in the twin rivers of Seyhan and Ceyhan and that's how the idea came up," Utkan told reporters here yesterday.

Another Turkish official in the team now visiting Abu Dhabi said an initial study by the US Brown and Root Company had shown the project was technically feasible.

Pipeline

"A detailed feasibility study is now underway and will be discussed with the governments concerned," he said. Positive reaction to the project had already been shown in Jordan and Syria, he added.

A Brown and Root official said the first pipeline, 2,700 km

(1,690 miles) long, would pump 3.5 million cubic metres of water a day into Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

The second of 3,900 km (2,440 miles) would carry 2.5 million cubic metres a day to Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the UAE and Oman.

The project cost was put last year at some \$10 billion but officials were now quoting figures of up to 21 billion. Ankara officials said the detailed feasibility study alone would cost millions of dollars.

Together with Saudi Arabia, the five Gulf states make up the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), a defensive and economic alliance set up in 1981.

With a population of around 15 million, GCC nations are

among the world's richest in oil but poorest in water.

Faced by scant rainfall and a few artesian wells, the desert states have turned to the sea for their water needs. Oil wealth accounting for more than 60 per cent of the world's known reserves has helped them build expensive desalination plants.

Plants

Such plants have increased dramatically in recent years due to rapid population growth and the fact that Gulf per capita water consumption is the highest in the world.

A cubic metre of Turkish water would cost between 84 cents and \$1.07, according to the team which was due to leave for Bahrain today.

The undersecretary of Abu Dhabi Water Department, Saeed Atiq, told Reuters he expected the Turkish project to solve "for good" water problems in the GCC and significantly expand cultivated areas.

Project

The Turkish team did not say who would finance the project, which will distribute 1.1 million cubic metres to Syria, 600,000 cubic metres each to Jordan, Kuwait and the UAE, 2.3 million cubic metres to Saudi Arabia, 200,000 cubic metres each to Bahrain and Oman, and 100,000 cubic metres to Qatar.

"The issue of financing will come at a later stage, but I can guess from now many financing agencies will be interested in the project," Utkan told reporters.

Japan leading the way back up from Black Monday

Shares rally on hopes for US trade balance

LONDON, March 20. (Reuters) Rising confidence that the United States is at last starting to narrow a huge trade gap is fuelling a worldwide rally in share prices.

Japan is leading the way back up from 'Black Monday' October 19, 1987. For the first time since then, Tokyo's Nikkei share index briefly topped 26,000 points last Friday and edged near its pre-crash all-time high of 26,646.43.

It might have gone higher, had not Bank of Japan Governor Satoshi Sumita said he thought it was rising too fast.

Sumita's comments took the steam out of the market, said broker Robert Karr at New Japan Securities in Tokyo.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average ended the week at 2,087.37, its best since Black Monday. European shares rose, too, with Frankfurt's Faz index rising by 5.3 per cent.

Brokers said that, besides local

factors, the positive news for shares was the announcement of a smaller-than-expected US January trade deficit on Thursday.

The figure came out at \$12.44 billion. That compares with a record \$17.63 billion last October.

The size of the trade deficit, threatening to send the dollar into a tailspin, was among factors that last autumn eroded the confidence of the money markets.

The dollar now seems more secure, ending last week just below 1.7 West German marks and at 127.50 yen compared with historic lows quoted in the markets back on January 4, of 1.5615 and 120.20.

High

Among currencies, however, the star performer lately has been Britain's pound sterling, to which money has been attracted by relatively high British interest rates.

When the pound rose to 3.10 marks last Thursday and

threatened to pinch British export earnings, the Bank of England cut key interest rates from nine to 8.5 per cent.

But according to Sykes Wilford, an economist at investment bankers Drexel Burnham Lambert in London, "sterling is still a very strong currency. On a real rate of return basis, Britain still looks attractive."

Contracts

The spotlight this week will also be on the price of crude oil, with traders trying to judge whether its recent fall under the weight of a world oversupply has now bottomed out.

Opec President Riwayan Lukman of Nigeria has scheduled a news conference for Tuesday, and anticipation that he might announce an organisation action to tighten the market on Friday sent US oil prices to their highest in a month.

April futures contracts for West Texas intermediate crude oil rose 30 cents to \$16.58 a barrel

on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

The higher oil prices added to concern on Wall Street about inflation, the new worry now that a recession seems unlikely and the US economy shows signs of continued robust expansion.

The Federal Reserve added to inflation worries with a report on Friday which showed rising prices for many manufacturers and near-capacity production levels at some American factories.

Metals prices have gained from the uptick — predictions of strong world demand from the building and stainless steel industries took aluminium to record highs above \$2,275 a tonne on the London Metal Exchange last week.

But there was scant comfort for Third World sellers of cash crops. Cocoa prices remained at five-year lows after the failure of International Cocoa Organisation to agree price supports and coffee was also weak.

Short-term Kuwaiti dinar deposits shoot up

KUWAITI dinar interbank deposits rose sharply at the short end of the market yesterday in response to extreme shortage while fixed periods eased after the Central Bank intervened in an attempt to boost liquidity.

Overnight funds dealt at 100 per cent, following business at one per cent on Saturday. Tomorrow's next rose sharply to levels of around 10, eight per cent.

Dealers said the shortage of day-to-day funds was mainly the result of a move by the Central Bank on Saturday to sell three-month Treasury bills on the secondary market. The bank injected liquidity yesterday by buying the bills at 5-1/4 per cent. It offered three- and six-month funds at 5-1/8 per cent.

"It was not an active market today but overnight was extremely tight and rates were driven up as people tried to outbid each other," one dealer said.

Deposits

Fixed period deposits saw little activity but rates eased 1/2 per cent across the board to 5-1/4, 4-3/4 per cent for one-month to one-year deposits. Deals were reported early in the day at six per cent for the one-month, 5-1/2 for three and 5-1/8 for six-months.

The Central Bank adjusted its dinar exchange rate firmer to 0.2752/62 to the dollar from 0.27562/72 on Saturday.

Commercial banks quoted rates of 0.2755/67.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal interbank deposits were unchanged from Saturday levels in a dull market, with activity curtailed due to the European weekend.

Trade is normally thin on Saturdays and Sundays, when many major offshore players are absent, but dealers said business was unusually quiet. Market sentiment has been nervous during the past few weeks amid uncertainty over a possible Saudi government bond issue, initially expected in March.

Many dealers believe the first issue of up to 30 billion riyals worth of bonds will be offered before the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, which starts in mid-April.

Some traders, however, think the Saudi bond programme could now be delayed until June.

US economy hit by overvalued dollar, slow growth

Experts see inflation as a new threat

WASHINGTON, March 20. (Reuters) The US economy has confounded predictions of a downturn following last October's stock market crash but some analysts see inflation as a new threat.

"The cassandras were wrong. We're not in a recession," said Allan Leslie, an economist at Discount Corp. of New York.

It is not the first time that the US economy has confounded forecasts that 64 months of expansion, the longest in peacetime, would grind to a halt.

An overvalued dollar, slow growth abroad and the towering American trade and budget deficits were all supposed to kill the economy at one point or another in the past five years.

But the Federal Reserve, the US central bank, reported on Friday that surveys by its district branches confirm a continued moderate expansion of the economy.

The explanation lies with a booming export sector and the consumer, who tightened his belt much less than expected after the destruction in stock market

wealth.

Now some analysts have singled out inflation as a new threat. Stephen Roach, an economist with Morgan Stanley and Company, predicts factories will be running flat out by the end of the year and labour will be scarce, prompting price rises and demands by workers for higher pay.

"The major issue now is inflation. We're an economy that is running out of room," he said.

Expensive

Most economists predict at least two per cent growth this quarter, and Roach has revised upwards his estimate for the full year by a full percentage point, to 3.1 per cent.

To stop inflation from spiralling, the Federal Reserve will have to slam on the brakes after the November presidential election, he said.

He believes short-term interest rates, now around 6.5 per cent, will be raised to 10 or 11 per cent in early 1989, making cars and business investment more expensive and bringing in recession by the second half of the year.

Inflation has held steady recently around 3.5 per cent and Stephen Slifer of Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc., like most economists, believes "pressure on prices and interest rates will be contained for the next few months."

"But lurking in the background is the potential for interest rates to move higher later in the year. There's just no more slack in the economy," he said.

The unemployment rate fell to a 10-year low in February of 5.7 per cent, down from 6.7 per cent a year earlier, and Federal Reserve Board chairman Alan Greenspan said last week it could probably drop only another half percentage point before wages start rising dangerously fast.

Rates

Factories worked at 82.4 per cent of capacity in February, up from 79.7 per cent a year earlier, but some industries, such as paper and chemicals, operated at much higher rates.

Friday's Fed survey said some inflationary bottlenecks were already emerging. Steel prices, for instance, were up sharply. Responding to the news, 30-year

interest rates surged in the US government bond market, to 8.69 from 8.55 per cent.

The bad news is a by-product of the 50 per cent decline in the dollar over the past three years which has brought a boom in foreign sales of US goods.

But demand at home, in the form of consumer purchases, business investment and government spending, is not slowing down quickly enough.

Car sales were strong in February, housing starts rose 8.9 per cent, firms hired half a million workers and the federal budget deficit is stuck at around \$150 billion a year.

The demand for labour, raw materials and credit is growing and the cost to business of all three will gradually increase.

One way to curb inflationary pressure would be to engineer a recession.

A less traumatic route, Greenspan and other economists argue, would be to cut the budget deficit further. But in an election year neither the White House nor Congress has the stomach for the tough political decisions that would require.

GCC petrochemical producers to meet

Plan to set up joint fleet to avoid high shipping prices

BAHRAIN, March 20. (Reuters) Gulf petrochemical producers will hold their first conference tomorrow to coordinate policies and study proposals to set up a joint fleet to avoid high shipping fees, industry officials said.

"Shipping costs reached an unacceptable level and we are seriously studying setting up a company to transport our products," said Mustafa Al Sayed, general manager of the Bahrain-based Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC).

Members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) have spent billions of dollars building petrochemical industries and they are planning to expand.

The seven-year-old GCC will hold the three-day meeting in Abu Dhabi to discuss production and marketing policies and proposals to start a joint fleet.

Products

"The feeling is all around... we look at it from a commercial point of view, it is more economical for us to transport our products," Al Sayed said.

The economic and defence alliance includes Saudi Arabia which alone needs about 140 tankers to carry its 3.5-million-tonne annual production of petrochemicals.

"Bahrain, another GCC mem-

ber, exports 700,000 tonnes a year and needs a tanker a week to ship its products while Kuwait, yet another member of the grouping, manufactures over a million tonnes a year.

The GCC also includes Oman, UAE and Qatar.

Al Sayed said there were different alternatives and the group is still exploring whether to purchase, charter or build their own tankers.

"Prices went up 50 per cent in the past year, why are the fees so high when there is an over supply of ships," he added.

Stable

Insurance and tanker fees are high for the Gulf where Iran and Iraq, at war since 1980, attack ships in the waterway.

One shipping expert said it would be more feasible for the GCC to set up a chartering company which could lease the tankers out when they are not in use.

Al Sayed said the petrochemical market was now stable after reaching a low point in December 1986. He anticipated a rise in demand, making it safe for the group to consider starting a fleet.

"It's an upward trend and it will continue to be so till 1992. We have a wide market and if we have our own ships we can put them to good and full use," he added.

The oil-rich GCC states have suffered from the swings in the oil market and see a future in expanding their petrochemicals industry.

The UAE has plans to enter the field of petrochemicals while Saudi Arabia is opening up its petrochemical industry to the private sector to further increase production.

Expansion

GPIC, meanwhile, is involved in a \$20-million expansion plan to increase output by 20 per cent by the end of the year.

The GCC offers a competitive price for its petrochemicals in comparison to other producers and the group is involved in complex talks with the European Economic Community (EEC) to reach a free-trade accord between the two economic groups.

Nouri for Abu Dhabi

THE board chairman and managing director of Kuwait Petrochemical Industries Company Abdul Baqi Al Nouri will participate in the first conference for marketing petrochemical products of the Gulf Cooperation Council states to be held in Abu Dhabi tomorrow.

Nouri left yesterday for Abu Dhabi for this purpose.

Goodwill, cooperation mark US-Soviet grain talks

WASHINGTON, March 20. (Reuters) An atmosphere of striking goodwill and new openness marked the first round of US-Soviet negotiations to renew a new multi-billion dollar grain agreement between the two countries.

High-level discussions on a new bilateral grain pact wound up here yesterday, and negotiators said the talks were "frank and amicable."

"I was very amazed at the change in mood between the two sides," said a grain industry source. "It's very open, very positive."

Agreement

The current grain agreement between Washington and Moscow expires on September 30, and officials from both the White House and the Kremlin said they hope that a new agreement can be formulated in the coming months.

The head Soviet negotiator said last week that Moscow would like to have a new long-term grain agreement in place by the time of the next Reagan-Gorbachev summit tentatively planned for May.

"We are ready for these negotiations 100 per cent, and if the United States is also ready, then evidently the results will be soon," said Yuri Chumakov, deputy trade minister of Soviet External Economic Cooperation.

An official statement after the meetings ended from Deputy United States Trade Represent-

ative Alan Holmer, who is in charge of the negotiations for the US side, said the two countries want to complete negotiations in the "next several months."

Warmer political relations between the superpowers, a stable trade environment and new players in the high stakes negotiating game encouraged the cooperative atmosphere of the weekend negotiations, grain industry and administration officials said.

The attitude and changed character of the Soviet team, which included officials newly appointed under Mikhail Gorbachev, was particularly noted.

"The cast of characters from Moscow now are 180 degrees different from those who prevailed in the past. The old guard Soviets were stodgy, close-lipped and always wanted to prolong needless debates," said a US grain source with long standing close ties to the Soviets.

Consultations

The Saturday negotiations were preceded by apparently successful consultations on Friday between the two groups on the current agreement. Under the agreement, Moscow is committed to buy a minimum of nine million metric tons of US grain per year, with the option to substitute one million tons of that grain for 500,000 tons of soyproduct purchases.

The Friday consultations were unusually brief — only 2 1/2 hours — and were cordial and to the point.

KUWAIT

BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
-NATIONAL BANK	0.870	0.890	0.890	0.880	315000	17
-GULF BANK	0.350	0.350	0.350	0.350	800000	28
-COMMERCIAL BK	0.250	0.248	0.248	0.248	40000	2
-AHLI BANK	0.305	0.305	0.305	0.305	20000	2
-B.K.M.E	0.305	----	----	----	-----	----
-K.R.E.B.	0.390	----	----	----	-----	----
-BURGAN BANK	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	20000	1
-K.F.HOUSE	0.470	0.475	0.475	0.470	20000	2
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
-KMT INV. CO.	0.194	----	----	----	-----	----
-K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	----	----	----	-----	----
-K.I.I.C.	0.154	----	----	----	-----	----
-COM.FACILITIES	0.425	----	----	----	-----	----
-AHLIAH INV.	0.000	----	----	----	-----	----
-I.F.A.	0.100	----	----	----	-----	----
-INV. PEARL KMT	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.106	620000	10
INSURANCE SECTOR						
-KMT INSURANCE	0.710	----	----	----	-----	----
-GULF INSURANCE	0.370	----	----	----	-----	----
-AHLIA INS. CO.	0.640	----	----	----	-----	----
-WARBA INS. CO.	0.440	----	----	----	-----	----
REAL EST SECTOR						
-KMT R.EST. CO.	0.240	----	----	----	-----	----
-UNI R.EST. CO.	0.120	0.120	0.120	0.120	60000	2
-NAT R.EST. CO.	0.228	----	----	----	-----	----
-SALHIAH R.E.	0.075	----	----	----	-----	----
-KMT PROJECTS	0.088	----	----	----	-----	----
-KMT R.E.I.CON	0.000	----	----	----	-----	----
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
-NAT IND. CO.	0.510	----	----	----	-----	----
-KMT M.P. IND.	0.320	----	----	----	-----	----
-KMT CEMENT CO.	0.238	----	----	----	-----	----
-REF. IND. CO.	0.385	----	----	----	-----	----
-N.A.M.T.CO.	0.000	----	----	----	-----	----
-GULF CABLE	0.960	----	----	----	-----	----
-K.P.H.IND. CO.	0.126	----	----	----	-----	----
-COMT.MARINE	0.350	----	----	----	-----	----
-K.SH.REP.CO.	0.046	----	----	----	-----	----
SERVICES SECTOR						
-OVERLAND TRANS	0.078	----	----	----	-----	----
-K.N.C. CO.	0.198	----	----	----	-----	----
-KMT HOTELS CO.	0.174	----	----	----	-----	----
-P.WAREHOUSING	0.150	----	----	----	-----	----
-COM.MKT.CMFX.	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020	960000	6
-MOBILE TELE.	0.370	0.370	0.370	0.370	150000	3
-KMT COMPUTER	0.194	0.188	0.188	0.188	200000	6
FOOD SECTOR						
-LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.244	----	----	----	-----	----
-UNTD FISHERIES	0.146	----	----	----	-----	----
-UNTD POULTRY	0.238	----	----	----	-----	----
-KMT FOODS	0.320	0.300	0.300	0.300	184800	1
-AGRI.FOOD PRD.	0.150	----	----	----	-----	----
NON-KMT SECTOR						
-BHN.INTER.BK	0.067	0.066	0.066	0.066	200000	1
-BHN.M.EAST.BK	0.046	----	----	----	-----	----
-UNTD.GULF BK	0.000	----	----	----	-----	----
-COAST INVEST.	0.091	----	----	----	-----	----
-A.G.I. INV. CORP	0.040	0.040	0.040	0.040	240000	2
-FIRST.GULF BK	0.630	----	----	----	-----	----
-B.K.I.G.	0.092	0.093	0.093	0.093	40000	1
KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE						
COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL MARKET						
FINANCIAL SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
-PEARL INV.CO.	0.098	----	----	----	-----	----
-GULF INV.CO.	0.042	----	----	----	-----	----
-GULF INTL INS	0.009	----	----	----	-----	----
-ARAB INT CO.	0.055	----	----	----	-----	----
-SHARJAH INS	0.000	----	----	----	-----	----
-GULF UNION INS	0.055	----	----	----	-----	----
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
B-GULF MEDICAL	0.016	----	----	----	-----	----
C-R.K.K.WHITE CHMT	0.018	----	----	----	-----	----
D-AJMAN CEMENT	0.007	----	----	----	-----	----
E-FUJAIRAH CEMENT	0.008	----	----	----	-----	----
F-SHARJAH CEMENT	0.010	----	----	----	-----	----
G-BUFAIRAH CEMENT	0.012	----	----	----	-----	----
H-UMM QAINAIN	0.070	----	----	----	-----	----

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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MURQAB, opposite Safat Post Office. A 3-bedroom flat with water, electricity and telephone facility for an Indian family, from April onwards. Tel. 2454134, 4-7 pm. (AT2-41463-3)

SALWA (behind Irani shop), House No. 198, Block No 7. One big room with water, electricity and kitchen facilities for a family/bachelors to share with an Indian family. Bus 34, 102. Rent KD50. Tel. 5611243. (AT3-41480-3)

SHARQ circle, CAC flat with tele. and food for single Indian Christian girls to share with a small family. Bus routes 1, 26, 19, 109, 32. Tel. Assumpta, 5745638/9. (AT2-41463-3)

NUGRA, Khaloon Street. One big independent furnished room with water, electricity and tele facilities to share with an Indian family for one or two bachelors. Tel. Oberoi, 4740801, off. 2644645, res. (AT3-41476-3)

IN Salmiya, near Bheil Puri shop. Two rooms with water and electricity for couples or two ladies. Rent KD30 for each room. Tel. 4841181, 4841100, ext. 2098, 2-8 pm. (AT1-41441-3)

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MISHREF, a villa, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, plus 3 rooms on the ground floor, with a garden. Rent KD400. Tel. 5389501, 2-4 pm only. (AT4-41395-6)

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BEDROOM set, video, TV, file cabinet, stove, lamps, cupboards, shelves, tent, rowing machine. Tel. Museab, 5725179 or 2467161. (AT3-41488-3)

IKEA system 210 high kitchen cabinet, KD65, black standard lamp KD10, bookshelf KD5, 2 clothes racks KD5 each. Tel. 5335170, 1-4 pm. (AT2-41450-3)

Cars

MERCEDES 450SLC, 1979 model, AC, automatic, sunroof and television, in excellent condition. KD3000. Best offer. Cash. Tel. Joe, 3717691, 2-8 pm. (AT3-41490-3)

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CRESSIDA, 1987 model, AC, manual, white, 2000 km, in excellent condition, KD2600 cash. Tel. Rolando, 5754202 after 2 pm. (AT3-41468-3)

PONTIAC, Trans-Am 1981 model, AC, fully automatic, gold, in very good condition. KD850 cash. Tel. 3900280, 4-8 pm. (AT3-41472-3)

MITSUBISHI Galant GLS. Purchased in Dec 1987 registered upto Dec 1990. Fully automatic, 6,800 kms in good condition. Best offer. Tel. Joe, 2403600, 9 am - 1 pm, 4-8 pm. (AT3-41478-3)

MAZDA 929 box, model 1986, AC, automatic, metallic green, 44,000 kms, in excellent condition. KD1350 to the company, KD75 monthly instalment and KD850 for the owner. Tel. 563123, after 3.30 pm. (AT3-41479-3)

OPEL Rekord 1985, beige, AC, automatic, PV, stereo, one owner from new, in excellent condition throughout. KD1,650 negotiable. Cash. Tel. Ayman, 2436701, 8 am - 5 pm. (AT3-41491-3)

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JABRIYA — one bedroom, CAC flat for rent. KD140 with furniture and telephone — quick sale. Tel. 5339186 after 7 pm 5638707, 3-5 pm. (AT2-41444-3)

UPRIGHT piano for sale — in good condition, also a National A2 video camera set. Tel. 5384445. (AT2-41462-3)

NIKONOS IV A +. SB101 flash KD150. Rollei projector + screen KD40, Dacor ABLJ KD30, wet suit KD20, regulator + gauges KD30, aluminium 80 cu ft. KD45, weights etc. Tel. Martin Gordon, 4887407, 5-11 pm. (AT2-41455-3)

YAMAHA piano in very good condition. KD475, unused Browning Surfcat wind sailer, KD160, CR125 Honda dirtbike in good condition, KD150. Tel. 5313042, 8 am-12 noon. (AT2-41452-3)

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MAID, Indian, with transferable visa, fluent English, worked with American and European families seeks full or part-time job. Tel. 5315655, 9 am - 1 pm. (AT1-41414-3)

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NANNY/maid wanted urgently to live-in. Must have excellent experience with children, speak fluent English and have transferable visa. Tel. 2564544, after 7 pm. (AT3-T/M-3)

MAID required for a small family, full or part-time in Farwaniya. Tel. 4746253, 2-10 pm. (AT2-41456-3)

DRIVER required, preferably Indian or Pakistani, to work full-time for a contracting manager. Must have a transferable visa and valid driving licence. Salary KD100. Tel. 2425016, 2618707, 2-7.30 pm. (AT2-41459-3)

MAID required, Filipino, for a small family to live-in in Abu Halifa. Must have transferable visa. Tel. 3949907, after 3 pm. (AT2-41457-3)

HOUSE-KEEPER required, preferably Filipino, educated, able to speak English or Arabic and cook. Must have a transferable visa. Willing to work full-time. Tel. Dr Issa, 2431556, 2-9 pm. (AT2-41443-3)

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REQUIRED for a lady from Bneid Al Qar (behind Hilton Hotel) to Fahd Al Salem Street, near Sheraton circle. Timings are 8 am-1 pm and 4-7 pm. Tel. 2524729 after 2 pm. (AT3-41474-3)

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FULLY qualified guitar teacher required, to give lessons to a talented child. Tel. 2540486 1-5 pm. (AT1-41437-3)

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BRIEFCASE "Samsonite" brown colour, Bangladeshi, licence, Kuwait Civil Identity card, authority Mandop card and personal documents, lost in the departure lounge of Kuwait airport "Island No 2" on March 14, 1988 at 9 pm. Tel. 2460518, 2459034/5. (AT1-41436-3)

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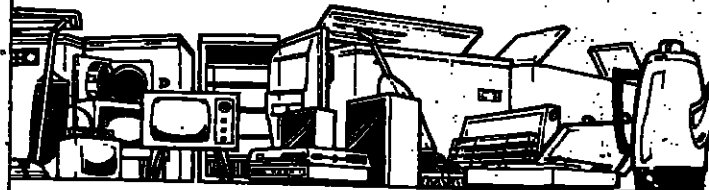
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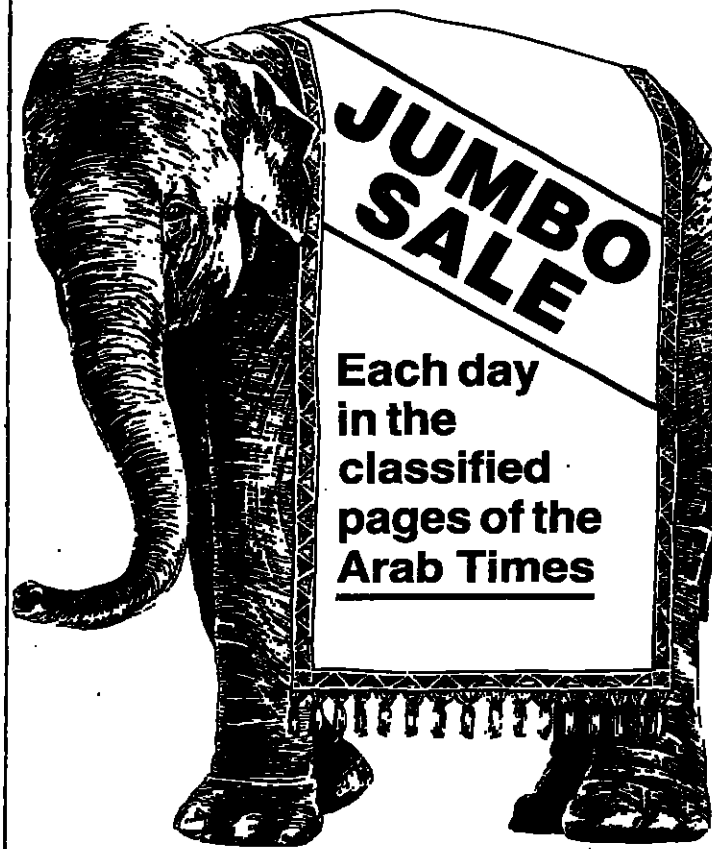
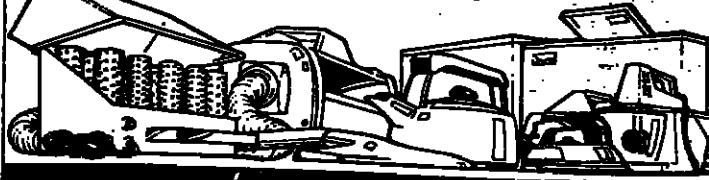
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Hadlee set to spur Kiwis' Sharjah Cup bid

DUBAI, March 20, (Reuters): Richard Hadlee, absent through injury for most of the recent international cricket in New Zealand, has the chance to gain a measure of compensation when his country seeks success in the desert.

All-rounder Hadlee will be the key-figure for New Zealand as they seek to win the Sharjah Cup in a three-nation limited overs tournament starting in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Friday. India and Sri Lanka complete the line-up.

Hadlee's presence — he is vice-captain to John Wright — has lifted New Zealand hopes of bettering their predecessors. On New Zealand's only other visit, without Hadlee, for the Australasia Cup in 1986, they were routed for 64 in a 10-wicket semifinal defeat by Pakistan.

The UAE's large population of cricket-mad Pakistanis, Indians, Sri Lankans, British and Australasian expatriates is keenly awaiting the Sharjah debut of Hadlee, who shares with England's Ian Botham the world Test record of 373 wickets.

Emerging players of promise such as opener Andrew Jones and middle order batsman Mark Greatbatch have also stirred interest in the new-look New Zealand squad.

India, with all-rounder Ravi Shastri deputising for suspended captain Dilip Vengsarkar, have all-round strength that could give them the edge over youthful Sri Lanka and the New Zealanders.

Pakistan opted out for reasons that were summed up by one official as "too much cricket", which forced the organisers, the Cricketers' Benefit Fund Series, to put back the tournament from February to March.

Pakistan's absence is a setback for the organisers, who are worried about maintaining their record of packing the 20,000-capacity Sharjah stadium every year since the inaugural tournament in 1984. The Cup carries a \$30,000 first prize.

India open the tournament against Sri Lanka on Friday, and meet New Zealand on Sunday, while New Zealand will play Sri Lanka on March 29. The semifinals on March 31 and the final on April 1.

Squads:
India — Ravi Shastri (captain), S. Srikanth, Kapil Dev, M. Azharuddin, A. Ayub, C. Sharma, S. Sharma, A. Sharma, M. Amarnath, M. V. Raman, C. Pandit, K. More, N. Sidhu, N. Hirwani.

New Zealand — J. Wright (captain), R. Hadlee, D. Patel, I. Smith, E. Chatfield, M. Greatbatch, A. Jones, K. Rutherford, T. Blain, C. Kuggeleijn, D. Morrison, R. Vance, W. Watson.

Sri Lanka — R. Madugalle (captain), A. Ranatunga, R. Mahanama, B. Kuruppu, A. Gurusinge, P. A. de Silva, J. Ratnayake, G. de Alwis, G. Labrooy, H. Ramanayake, K. Amalean, D. Anuraasiri, Ashoka de Silva, S. Kulperuma.

Tasmanian club launches probe

SYDNEY, March 20, (Reuters): A probe has been launched after a Tasmanian cricket club complained a room had been damaged at the end of last month's one-day match in Launceston between Tasmania and Queensland.

The executive director of the Tasmanian Cricket Council (TCC) Peter Hadlow has confirmed he is investigating damage done to the Old Scotch Collegians room.

Hubara beat Hawks for Rahman Trophy

HUBARA claimed their first trophy of the season with a three-wicket victory over Hawks in the Rahman Trophy cricket tournament on Friday. Hawks had been beaten by only three runs by BKME in the first knock-out trophy final and must have been disappointed to have failed to collect a trophy this season.

Hubara also moved into the final of the Pat Keely Trophy with a 42-run victory over Flying Arrows in the semifinal on Thursday.

Contain

In the Rahman Trophy final, Hawks elected to bat and Mohammed Ali (26), Amjad (48) and Shivi Basin (38) rode their luck as Hubara failed to contain these batsmen.

Jimmy James beat the bat frequently but still conceded 51 runs in his eight overs. At the half-way stage Hawks were 90 for one and looking towards a total of 200.

Ralph de Neise (three for 33) and Pat Flower (three for 49), however, spun out the middle-order and Craig Shipton returned to bowl a tighter spell.

CONNORS ELIMINATES SANCHEZ IN LACKLUSTRE MATCH

W. German stuns angry Mandlikova

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla., March 20, (Reuters): West German qualifier Sabine Auer saved five match points and upset an enraged Hana Mandlikova of Australia yesterday in the \$2.1 million International Players Tennis Tournament.

Mandlikova, seeded fourth, ended the match by hitting a ball at the lineswoman after receiving a penalty point for throwing her racket at the beginning of the final game.

Mandlikova, who threw an obscenity-filled tantrum at the US Open last September, said later she was so angry with the lineswoman that she did not regret her actions.

Crucial

"I'm not sorry. It's unbelievable that she missed that call. It was a crucial point, and I couldn't get it out of my mind," said the 26-year-old Mandlikova, who will automatically be fined at least \$250.

Auer won 4-6, 7-6, 7-5. Rain forced postponement of 30 matches, including 10 singles, and created windy playing conditions for the remaining contests.

Earlier, Jimmy Connors defeated Spain's Javier Sanchez 6-1 6-4 6-4 in a lacklustre affair, and ninth-seeded American Barbara Potter easily beat unseeded Catherine Suire of France 6-3, 6-3.

Auer, 21, rallied with Mandlikova from the baseline and attacked with poise on the key points throughout the two-hour and four-minute match.

Auer, ranked 284th in the world, said it was the biggest win of her career.

"I feel wonderful," she said through an interpreter. "I did not think I had a chance to win before I started because she is ranked so high. I think I believed I had a chance when I won the second set."

Mandlikova, seventh in the world, struggled to win the first set and then looked in control when she went ahead 5-2 in the second set. But she double faulted on the first of five match points in the 10th game and went on to lose her serve. Auer closed the gap to 5-5, lost her serve to fall behind 5-6, then saved four match points and broke Mandlikova's serve in the 12th game, forcing a tiebreaker which she easily won 7-3.

Auer went up a break at 4-2 in the third set but became nervous and lost her serve in the 10th game.

Mandlikova erupted when the lineswoman's call went against her on the first point of the 11th game. She was penalised a point for throwing her racket after losing her serve in that game.



Connors: not affected by delayed start.

Auer began serving the 12th game with a 15-0 lead because of the penalty. She closed out the

match with two volley winners, set up by carefully placed two-handed backhands.

Sanchez, ranked 90th in the world, began nervously, failing to counterattack Connors's flat, baseline play, and was swamped in the first set.

Sanchez continued to struggle in the second set, as Connors leaped out to a 5-2 lead.

But the Spaniard scored his first break of Connors's serve to reach 5-3 as the American missed an easy overhead. Sanchez held at love for 5-4 and seemed to have found his rhythm in the backcourt. But Connors served out the set 6-4 with a forehand winner.

Games went with serve in the third set, with Sanchez slicing balls low to Connors's sometimes erratic forehand.

But Connors broke first — in the fifth game — as Sanchez netted a backhand.

Delayed

Connors held on to the lead and served out the match 6-4 with Sanchez netting another backhand.

Afterwards, Connors said the delayed start did not disturb his concentration.

"As it turned out, I came out and started to play well at the start," Connors said. "I think it bothered him more than me. It's a difficult day to play, but to get the match in now and be able to forget about it and go home is good."

Foreman scores 8th straight win

LAS VEGAS, Nevada, March 20, (AP): Former heavyweight champion George Foreman scored his eighth straight comeback victory last night, stopping a flabby Dwight Muhammad Qawi in the seventh round of their scheduled 10-round fight.

Qawi had just taken a left-right to the head when he turned, waved Foreman off and quit to his corner. Referee Carlos Padilla officially stopped the fight at 1:51 of the round.

Gained

Meanwhile unbeaten middleweight Michael Nunn gained a world title shot last night by knocking out an outclassed Curtis Parker 58 seconds into the second round.

Informed

IBF spokesman Sy Rosen said Tyson's co-manager, Bill Cayton, had informed the IBF that his fighter would go into the ring with only his World Boxing Association (WBA) and World Boxing Council (WBC) belts.

Rosen quoted IBF president Robert Lee, in Tokyo for the fight, as saying Tyson would "automatically relinquish his IBF title if he entered the ring without the IBF belt."

Tubbs tips scales over target weight

TOKYO, March 20, (Reuters): Tony Tubbs will face undisputed world heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson tomorrow three kg over his target weight.

But the 30-year-old challenger shrugged off the difference at the official weigh-in today, telling reporters: "Don't worry about my weight. Watch me work."

Former middleweight champion Sugar Ray Leonard told Reuters Tubbs said he needed the additional cushion around his middle "to ward off some of Tyson's blows."

Tubbs, whose career has been dogged by weight problems, tipped the scales at 108 kg today.

The former World Boxing Association champion said last Thursday he weighed 106 kg and

hoped to be no more than 105 kg at the fight.

Leonard, here to do a commentary on the fight for television, voiced many fight-follower's scepticism when he said Tubbs was "best around 230-232 pounds."

Muscle

Champion "Iron Mike" Tyson weighed in at 98 kg of what looked to be pure muscle.

The 21-year-old Tyson is fast and strong, delivering flurries of punches marked by sharp left jabs and powerful rights.

Tubbs needs to be at his most trim to be able to stand up to those skills but in sparring last Monday he shuffled more than danced, and was clearly tired by the fifth round.

Extra weight will be little help in overcoming those problems.

Despite the weigh-in, both camps said Tubbs was still likely to get the \$50,000 bonus he has been promised for being in good shape. He already receives a \$500,000 net cut for the fight.

Tubbs's coordinator Lee Smith said the challenger would have the cheque before he stepped into the ring.

Tyson's co-manager William Cayton said he expected Tubbs to get the bonus so long as he put up a good fight.

The quality, or at least the length, of the fight may be helped by a decision at a meeting today by officials and representatives of both sides.

They agreed to waive the three-knockdown rule in the 12-

New Goans lift Samajam Trophy



The winners with other officials.

NEW GOANS beat United Goan Strikers to win the Kuwait Malayalee Samajam Trophy football tournament, sponsored by Sana Household, at the Fahaheel grounds on Friday.

The game was decided in a tie-

breaker after both the teams played to a goalless draw in the normal and extra time.

The prizes were presented to the winners and runners-up by O. Abdul Rahman, editor of a

Malayalam daily in India and currently on a short visit to Kuwait.

Joseph Salemao of United Goan Strikers took the prize for the top scorer of the tournament.

Van Gennip sets new mark

HEERENVEEN, Netherlands, March 20, (AP): Dutch speed skater Yvonne van Gennip bettered the women's 10-kilometre speed skating record by more than half a minute yesterday, finishing in 15 minutes, 25.25 seconds.

The Dutch champion, who won three gold medals during

last month's Winter Olympics in Calgary, shattered the previous mark of 15:56.81, held by Grietje Mulder, also from the Netherlands. Mulder's record was set last Wednesday.

Van Gennip set the new standard in a record-attempt racing during this weekend's women's World Cup event here.

Snooker final

LONDON, March 20, (Reuters): England, trailing unfancied Australia 7-5 in snooker's World Cup final, triumphed when team captain Steve Davis won the last four frames at Bournemouth today.

Australia, who had looked like winning the tournament for much of the day, had ended the first session 5-3 ahead.

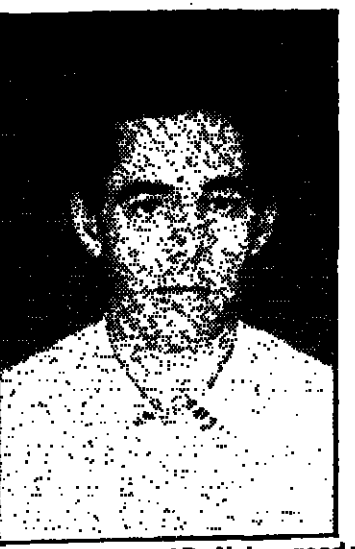
Flying Arrows, Hubara were always in command. Shipton and Talbot gave Hubara a flying start scoring 21 and 26 respectively, paving the way for Patrick Flower (47) and Ralph de Neise (31) to build a score beyond their opponent's reach.

John McConville (11) and Clive Greenwood (9) helped Hubara reach 173 for seven after 23 overs. For Flying Arrows, Benjamin picked up three late wickets.

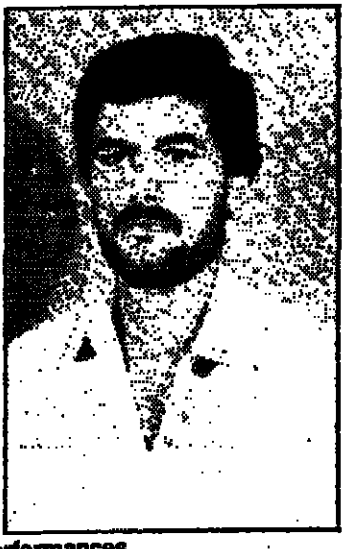
Catch
Flying Arrows set about the challenge in a cavalier style but the total always looked beyond their reach despite some good batting from Verold (21), Milind (14), Francis (14) and Benjamin with an unbeaten 16.

Jimmy James (three for 27), Shipton (two for 20), Dave Baldy, De Neise, J.B. Patel and Gerry Pallister all took wickets. Highlight of the fielding was a superb one-handed catch by wicket-keeper John McConville and some excellent ground fielding by Clive Greenwood.

Hubara now meet BKME in the final of the Pat Keely Trophy at Ahmadi on April 7.



Flower (left) and De Neise: good performances.



Hawks innings ended on the last ball of the 30th over with the score at 178.

Hubara started badly when Sakawat had Shipton caught behind by Basin in the first over. However, Dave Talbot (33), Patrick Flower (74 not out) and Jimmy James (29) took Hubara to 128 with eight overs remaining. Flower gradually

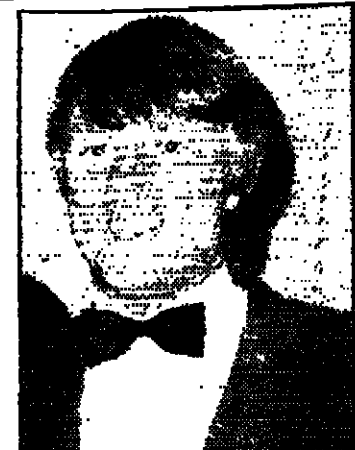
Ridding fires 67 for top place

TONY RIDDING, shooting his best golf of the year, won the Special Medal at Bucksands on Friday. Ridding had a gross 79, with a 12 handicap, for a net 67, three strokes better than runner-up Tom Rogers.

"I was confident before I teed off," said Ridding, "since I have been playing well recently."

In addition to the Special Medal, Ridding has reached the finals of match-play at Bucksands. In that, he will team up with the other half of Bucksand's "Dynamic Duo," Cris Thrupp, to determine the champion.

Other strong finishers were Roy Meyers and Brian Griffin.



Ridding: triumphs
with net 73s, and Gene Dodd, Roy Cooper, Pat Griffin, and Jamal Bazzari with net 74s. Pre-tourney favourites Larry Parkos, Hardev Mangal, and Larry Hovey were not in serious contention.

Tshering and Zicarelli dominate 12th tourney

CAROLYN Tshering and Angelo Zicarelli dominated the 12th archery tournament of the season held by the Kuwait Archery Federation at the Hunting and Equestrian Club on Friday.

For once the archers experienced ideal shooting conditions — a warm, windless day. As a result of the perfect weather the archers shot some good scores with many personal bests.

One record was broken in the senior women's 50 metres division by Carolyn Tshering with a score of 255, ten more points than the previous record.

In the senior men's division Angelo Zicarelli, who has dominated the field throughout the year, scored 958 — 172 points ahead of his nearest rival Phil Hall. In the senior men's division B, Hani Badr took the first position just ahead of Francois Ducro.

In the senior women's division C, Emilia Dagondon and Amelia Teves returned to the

sport after a year's absence. They took first and second place respectively. In the senior men's division C two French newcomers to the sport shot well. Jean-Pierre Turque and Andre Le Coq came first and second respectively.

Results

Senior men's division A: 1st Angelo Zicarelli 958; 2nd Phil Hall 783; 3rd Tom Justus 754.

Senior women's division A: 1st Carolyn Tshering 939.

Senior men's division B: 1st Hani Badr 398; 2nd Francois Ducro 365; 3rd Remi Pascal Bousquet 268.

Senior women's division C: 1st Emilia Dagondon 196; 2nd Amelia Teves 155; 3rd Jerry Esmail 151.

Senior men's division C: 1st Jean-Pierre Turque 198; 2nd Andre Le Coq 139.

The prizes were presented by the managing director of the Hunting & Equestrian club, Mohammed M. Al Shaheen. The Kuwait Archery Federation will hold its next competition on March 25 for junior archers. Anyone wanting to try archery, should contact 4739199 ext 48/31 or 4739721.

Sweden off to winning start

PARIS, March 20, (Reuters): Sweden opened their defence of the men's team title at the European Table Tennis Championships yesterday with a win over Belgium but 1986 runners-up France succumbed to England in their first group encounter.

Sweden, who beat France to win the last European crown in

Prague, emerged comfortable 5-2 victors over modest Belgium in the first of their five pool a round-robin matches.

French number one Jean-Philippe Gatien won his three matches but it was not enough to save the host nation from a 5-4 defeat by England in their initial pool B encounter.

A sensational second win for Toyota!



Mohammed bin Sulayem (left) and co-driver Ronan Morgan celebrating Toyota Celica Turbo's victory in Kuwait.

Toyota's impressive victory in the Kuwait International Rally has once again placed the team right ahead in the race for clinching the third successive Middle East Rally Championship title.

It's the season's second victory and it has set the pace for the year ahead, strengthening our abiding belief that commitment to quality has its own rewards.

Kuwait International Rally '88 Winners

The Team	Position	Time
Mohammed bin Sulayem/ Ronan Morgan	1st	1 hr., 54 mins., 37 secs.
Sultan Al Suweidi/ Dave Orrick	3rd	2 hrs., 19 mins., 25 secs.

TOYOTA
TEAM MIDDLE EAST

Committed to quality, always
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•Ismail Bilbeisi & Co., P.O. Box 213, Amman, Jordan.
•Mohamed Nasser Al-Sayer & Sons Est., P.O. Box 485, Kuwait.
•Suhail & Saud Bahwan, P.O. Box 6168, Ruwi, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Tennis tourney

A TENNIS tournament for under-16s will be held from April 13 to 16 at the SAS Hotel. About 80 participants representing Abu Dhabi, Oman, Damascus and the American and English schools in Kuwait will participate. The tournament is being organised by E.M.A.C. (Eastern Mediterranean Activities Conference) in tandem with the Kuwait English School. For further information Tel: Mrs. Mealing - 5655216 ext. 56.

Memorial Trophy

THE Jimmy Memorial Trophy volleyball tournament for Indians is scheduled to be held from April 1. The entry is open until March 28. For further information contact Thomas Joseph, Tel. 2468528 after 5.00 pm or Rajan Daniel, Tel. 5629747.

Sri Lanka win

HARARE, Zimbabwe, March 20. (AP): Sri Lanka "B" scored a dramatic victory over Zimbabwe in a limited overs cricket match today. Both teams scored 145 runs but under the rules, Sri Lanka won because it lost nine wickets while Zimbabwe was all out.

Azingar ahead

ORLANDO, Florida, March 20. (Reuters): Paul Azinger held a one-stroke lead yesterday after three rounds of the \$750,000 Bay Hill Classic golf tournament, with a 54-hole total of eight-under par 205.

French soccer

PARIS, March 20. (Reuters): Defending champions Bordeaux bounced back from their European Cup defeat last Wednesday with a 3-1 win over French Soccer League leaders Monaco yesterday to underline the title battle was far from over.

Barcelona Open

BARCELONA, Spain, March 20. (Reuters): Briton David Whelan, forced to borrow money from his parents in order to play, produced a classic rag-to-riches victory in the Barcelona Open golf tournament today.

Pakistan hit 271

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, March 20. (Reuters): Scoreboard in the fourth one-day cricket international between West Indies and Pakistan today: PAKISTAN: Rameez Raja c Greenidge b Patterson 71. Mostafizur c Greenidge b Gray 46. Salim Malik b Gray 26. Javed Miandad c Richardson b Patterson 59. Imran Khan c sub b Benjamin 16. Ejaz Ahmed c Gray b Patterson 19. Salim Yousaf not out 8. Hafiz Shahid not out 2. Extras (b-3 lb-15 w-1 nb-5) 24. Total (six wickets, 43 overs) 271. Did not bat: Shoaib Mohammad, Abdul Qadir, Zahir Khan. Fall of wickets: 1-109 2-139 3-160 4-194 5-256 6-256. Bowling: Patterson 9-0-77-3 (nb-5), Walsh 9-0-43-0 (w-1), Gray 10-0-45-2, Benjamin 9-0-58-1, Hooper 7-0-30-0.

LEEDS' RECORD REMAINS INTACT

Everton end Liverpool's unbeaten run

LIVERPOOL, England, March 20. (AP): Liverpool's bid to set a 30-match unbeaten start-of-season record in English League soccer foundered at the home of its long-time rival, Everton, today as it went down 1-0.

Wayne Clarke's goal for Everton after 14 minutes meant Liverpool had to be content with sharing the record with Leeds United, which started the 1973-4 season with a 29-match unbeaten run.

Retreat. Everton, the defending League champion and the only side to beat Liverpool this season — in a Littlewoods Cup game back in October — was forced to retreat for long periods of today's match.

After Clarke's early strike, Liverpool surged forward in numbers in search of the equaliser that would have given the "Reds" a unique place in English soccer history.

Had it avoided defeat, Liverpool also would have equalled the English season unbeaten streak of 30 matches, set by Burnley in 1920-21.

But disciplined defence by Everton, helped by efficient use of the offside trap, kept Kenny Dalglish's team at bay.

At the final whistle, thousands of Everton fans in the 44,162 crowd at Goodison Park swarmed on to the field to celebrate their team's victory.

Both sides attacked from the kickoff, in welcome contrast to recent stale League and Cup encounters between the two, but although Liverpool often played attractive football they never recovered after falling behind.

Trevor Steven swung in a corner which Liverpool keeper Bruce Grobbelaar weakly punched out, and after a brief scramble the ball fell at the feet of Clarke, who thumped it in past a defender on the line from close range.

Six minutes later Alan Harper cleared a fierce Steve McMahon shot off the line, and a minute later it was Liverpool's turn to breathe a sigh of relief when Alan Hansen booted the ball off the Liverpool line with Grobbelaar beaten.



The Leeds' side which set the record in the 1973-4 season. Allan Clarke is 2nd from right.

The second half was less entertaining, free kicks continually stopping play as the Liverpool players began to flare. Everton did not have a single proper attempt on goal in the second 45 minutes and Liverpool twice came close to equalising in

the last half hour, keeper Neville Southall tipping away a Craig Johnston shot and Peter Beardsley firing just past the post after outstripping the Everton defence.

Everton, who had handed Liverpool their only previous

defeat of the season, 1-0 home defeat by Liverpool in the sixth round of the FA Cup last month.

It was only the third time Liverpool had failed to score in a League game this season. Both previous occasions, against Norwich and West Ham, were on its

home field. But the result did little to jeopardise Liverpool's charge towards its ninth League title in 13 seasons.

With 10 matches still to play, Dalglish's team leads the First Division standings by 14 points, with two games in hand over its nearest rivals.

Liverpool also is bidding to become the first team to win the English League and Cup "double" twice. It first achieved the feat two years ago and plays Nottingham Forest in the FA Cup semifinals.

Allan Clarke, Wayne Clarke's elder brother who led the Leeds forward line when the record was first set 14 years ago, said it deserved to be shared.

"If I was honest, I have to say I'm glad Everton won today," he said. "Two great sides now share the record and that's how it should be."

In a Scottish Premier Division match played today Celtic won 2-1 at second-placed Rangers to go six points clear at the head of the table with a game in hand.

Morocco and Algeria in semifinals

CASABLANCA, March 20. (Reuters): Host nation Morocco booked a place in the semifinals of the 16th Africa Nations Cup soccer tournament yesterday after drawing 0-0 with Ivory Coast, and Algeria clinched a place in a potted draw.

The result of the Morocco-Ivory Coast clash gave the home side four points, while Algeria and Ivory Coast both ended with three points and exactly the same goal difference.

In a hushed atmosphere, the two tied teams drew lots out of the trophy itself in a Casablanca hotel shortly after the end of the second match.

Fortune favoured the North Africans, who have never won the Africa Nations Cup, the continent's most prestigious soccer event.

Algeria had beaten Zaire 1-0 in the first match of the day to make amends for a 1-0 defeat by Morocco on Wednesday.

By a cruel irony, Ivory Coast — one of pre-tournament favourites — therefore leave Morocco unbeaten, but also without having managed one win in any of their group A matches.

In their two previous games, Ivory Coast drew 1-1 with Zaire and by the same score with Algeria, and the Elephants will rue the large number of missed opportunities, particularly in an exciting, free-flowing game against Morocco.

Morocco's defensive wall of Abdelmajid Lamris and Mataoui Tijani never allowed the Ivorians an inch as the visitors sought revenge for a defeat here last November in the

Olympic qualifying tournament. Tijani fought a tough duel with Ivory Coast attacking star Youssef Fofana on the left.

He kept the so-called "Black Diamond" on a short leash, matching him for speed and beating him for aggression.

Fofana, caught in a tug-of-war between his club Monaco and the national team, broke loose once or twice and drew gasps of admiration with his dribbling skills.

With 15 minutes to go he showed remarkable balance and control in carrying the ball 20 metres through the heart of the Moroccan defence before unleashing a strong shot.

In the Moroccan attack, Hachem El Gharef came close twice in the second half. He shaved the crossbar shortly

after the break when he latched onto a cross from Lamris.

The midfield battle was a tale of two players.

For Morocco, it was St Etienne star Mustapha El Hadadoui who tormented the Ivorian defence with his surging runs and renowned shooting ability.

After half an hour in the first half, he tested Ivorian goalkeeper Alain Gouamene with a shot from the edge of the box after winning the ball deep in midfield.

Earlier, Zaire were eliminated from the finals after being beaten 1-0 by Algeria, the Leopards' first defeat of the tournament.

Abdelkader Ferhousi hit the winner in the 35th minute with a low drive from eight metres out. Cameroon and Kenya drew 0-0 in a Group B match today.

W. Australia rock Queensland

PERTH, Australia, March 20. (Reuters): Western Australia swing bowler Terry Alderman took two late wickets today to leave Queensland perilously placed on the third day of the five-day Sheffield Shield cricket final.

At the close Queensland were 58 for four in their second innings, an overall lead of just three runs.

Alderman grabbed the wickets of Robbie Kerr for two and Glen Trumble for three after left-arm paceman Chris Matthews had taken the vital wicket of captain Allan Border for six.

Queensland's hopes now lie with England all-rounder Ian Botham, who has had an un-

successful match so far. Botham was not out three at the close.

Earlier, Western Australia captain Graeme Wood scored a magnificent 141 to hold his team's batting together in the face of some hostile pace bowling from Carl Rackemann.

Scoreboard

QUEENSLAND first innings 289 (Allan Border 66, Chris Matthews eight for 101)

WESTERN AUSTRALIA first

innings

G. Marsh c Healy b Rackemann 41

M. Veletta c Barby b Rackemann 24

J. Brunsell c Border b Rackemann 141

C. Wood run out 11

K. Hughes run out 11

K. Macleay lbw b McDermott 7

W. Andrews lbw b Rackemann 21

T. Zocher c Healy b Rackemann 0

C. Matthews c Barby b Hobbs 2

T. Alderman lbw b Hobbs 0

A. Mulhally not out 27

Extras (lb-15 nb-12) 24

Total 271

Fall of wickets: 1-61 2-75 3-140 4-153 5-186 6-322 7-326 8-335 9-335 10-344

Bowling: McDermott 24-4-80-1 (nb), Tazelaar 32-10-79-0 (lb), Rackemann 30-7-69-5 (2nb), Botham 24-7-66-0, Hobbs 19-5-7-35-2

QUEENSLAND second innings

R. Kerr c Andrews b Alderman 2

T. Barby b Macleay 21

G. Ritchie not out 17

A. Border c Veletta b Matthews 6

G. Trumble lbw b Alderman 3

I. Botham not out 3

Extras (lb-1 nb-5) 6

Total (for four wickets) 58

Fall of wickets: 1-9 2-38 3-46 4-49

Bowling: Alderman 10-2-18-2 (nb), Macleay 9-3-24-1, Matthews 9-3-15-1, Mulhally 3-3-0-0

Kristiansen wins 15km road race

ADELAIDE, March 20. (Reuters): World Champion Ingrid Kristiansen blitzed an international field of 77 to win the women's world 15 km road race championship in Adelaide today.

The Norwegian champion, who celebrates her 32nd birthday tomorrow, ran to victory in 48.23 minutes, almost two minutes ahead of nearest rival 23-year-old Xiuming Wang of China who finished in 50.18 minutes.

The Soviet Union's Zoja Ivanova (50.27) was a close third followed by China's Iliandi Zhong (50.29), Malin Westlund of Sweden (50.41) and Ekaterina Hramenkova of the Soviet Union (50.43).

Napoli trounce Como to retain four-point lead

ROME, March 20. (Reuters): Brazilian striker Careca scored twice today as Italian champions Napoli swept to a stylish 3-0 League win at home to struggling Como, maintaining a four-point lead over closest rivals AC Milan who also won easily.

Milan beat lowly Pescara 2-0, with Dutch European Footballer of the Year Ruud Gullit scoring a classic goal in the second half, while Roma and Sampdoria also won at home to leave the top four League standings unchanged.

Contention. Napoli held the League with 38 points, followed by Milan on 34 and Roma, who beat Empoli 1-0 and who are the only other team left in contention for the title, next with 33 points.

Napoli, held to a goalless draw by bottom-of-the-League Empoli last Sunday and with two consecutive home defeats behind them, were determined to shrug off their recent poor form.

Careca scored the first goal after 10 minutes, heading home at close range off a free kick punched powerfully into a crowded area by Francesco Romano. Fernando de Napoli scored the second with a virtuoso effort on the stroke of half-time.

Argentine World Cup captain Diego Maradona, playing with superb confidence, set up the third goal with a neat back heel pass to defender Salvatore Bagni who in turn slipped the ball to Careca who hammered home in the 48th minute.

Maradona leads the overall scoring standings with 12 goals while Careca's double puts him

close behind on 11.

Milan got off to a devastating start, scoring in the second minute through Daniele Massaro off a free kick from Gullit, who scored the second in the 48th minute, rising high in the area and the lobbing a calmly controlled ball into the net.

Roma, with Polish striker Zbigniew Boniek on the bench for the first half, laboured until the 50th minute before scoring through Giuseppe Giannini. Boniek later missed two chances.

Juventus, in the doldrums after being beaten by Avellino on Sunday, beat Pisa 2-1 to stave off further criticism and revive their hopes of staying in European competition next season.

Beaten.

Luigi de Agostini scored the first goal in the 26th minute off a free-kick but Pisa hit back five minutes later when Daniele Bernazzini was left to cruise unmarked into the area.

Roberto Tricella scored Juventus' second in the 66th minute while a third goal scored by Sergio Brio was ruled offside.

Internazionale slumped to their fourth consecutive away defeat, losing 2-1 to Ascoli, while Verona, beaten in the UEFA Cup in midweek by Werder Bremen, lost 2-0 at home to Torino.

Gu brushes aside Lee for crown

LONDON, March 20. (Reuters): Gu Jiaming of China ended the spectacular run of South Korean teenager Lee Young-Suk by powering to an 11-2 11-2 triumph to win the women's singles title in the All-England Badminton Championships today.

Gu, 23, seized on Lee's inexperience as she raced to a victory at Wembley which took only 16 minutes and which earned her \$6,300 from the total purse of \$125,000 in the world's richest badminton tournament.

She received the trophy and her prize from Britain's Prince Andrew, patron of the sport in Britain.

Lee, who at 17 would have been the youngest title holder if she had won, had beaten world champion and top seed Han Aiping of China in the quarterfinals and defending champion Kirsten Larsen of Denmark in the semifinals.

Mobile

But Gu, despite playing with heavy strapping on her right thigh, was still too mobile, too deft and too powerful for the younger player.

Lee frequently looked as if she could battle her way back. But she was too slow finding her form to save the first game in the face of a whirlwind start from Gu, and she never did make the required adjustment to her length to cope with an air current blowing from behind her in the second game.

Meanwhile unseeded Ib Frederiksen upset top-seeded Morten Frost 8-15, 15-7, 15-10, in a battle of Danish players to win the men's singles title.

Tucson Open

TUCSON, Ariz., March 20. (Reuters): Briton Laura Davies shot a three-under-par 69 yesterday to take a two-stroke lead heading into the final round of the \$300,000 Tucson Open women's golf tournament.

Davies was shaky at the start, with a bogey on the first hole, but birdied the third, seventh, eighth and ninth and made the turn with a two-under 33. She finished on a high note with a birdie on 18.

She was followed by three Americans. Patty Sheehan was second and Robin Walton third, three strokes off the pace.

Bridge

RESULTS of the SAS Bridge Club game played yesterday: 1st Lya Edwards & Pearl Levey 2nd Irene Shams & Dona Maderny 3rd Ely Lammeris & Camilla Gairgis.

Local drivers show tenacity in Kuwait International Rally

By Gail Seery

AS Fisa, Rothmans and Toyota settle down for what could be a long battle over who is the winner of the Kuwait International Rally, it should not be forgotten that the rally itself was a splendid day's competition, drawing some superb driving from all three top drivers, as well as from local entrants. The organisers were inexperienced and lacked back up from some more long-standing members of the club, but they worked hard in difficult circumstances.

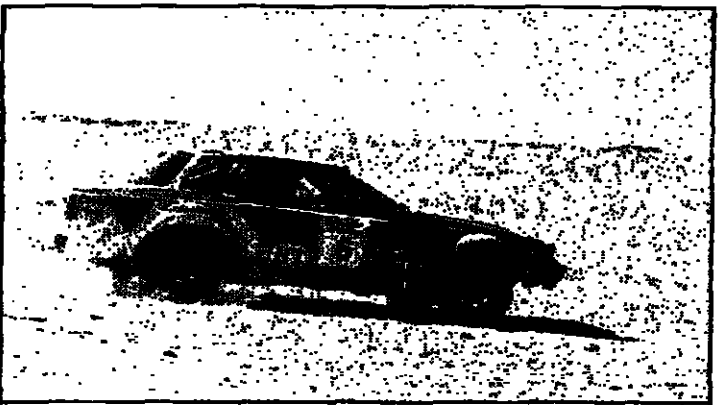
Josef Miskulnig, was the first of the Kuwait based entrants to arrive home, driving an International Optics sponsored 240RS. Driving his fourth rally, this ex-Lange navigator drove himself and co-driver Klaus Schwingenshiog into fourth place in the rally and first place in the National Championship table, with 55 points. Miskulnig is just 1 point ahead of Faez Chihab, former National Champion, and Ahmed Al Nasser is in third place with 46 points.

Distinguished. Mike Allen, the youngest driver in the rally at 18 years of age is now leading the Group A section of the Middle East Championship. Driving the Volvo 240, he showed the same stubborn tenacity which distinguished his earlier effort in January when he refused to allow a fire in his petrol tank to stop him completing the rally, albeit at the back of the field.

The newcomers to the event attacked the terrain with a tenacity which impressed onlookers. With only twenty of the forty five starters able to complete the



Mike Allen in a Volvo 240.

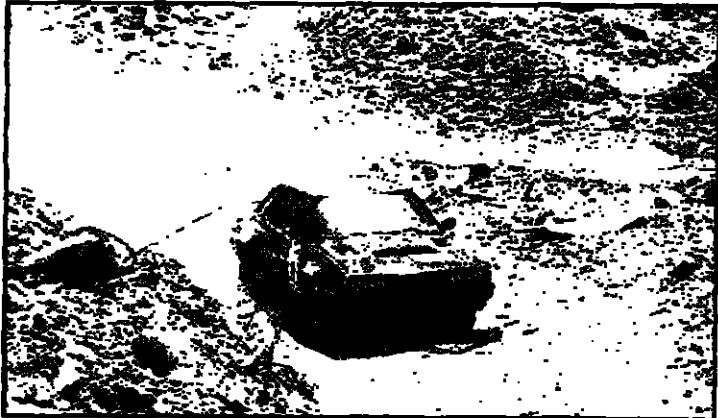


Al Hussein: doing well before writing off his car.

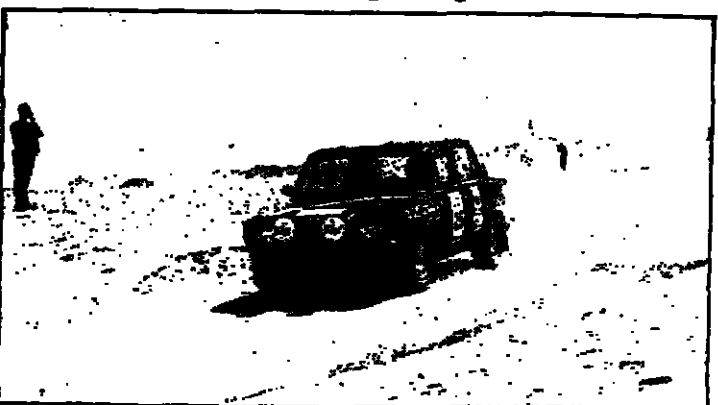
event, they should certainly be praised. Ahmed Al Mulla and Jasim Al Harbi found themselves without any service crew at all on the first day, but were determined to finish. Younis Ali, who was the highest-placed novice in the first round of the National Championship, finished fifteenth with a car he thought was on its last legs even before the start. The achievement of these drivers should not be looked in the rum-pus surrounding the first and

second placings. A fellow novice, Musaed Faraj, and navigator Mufed Mubarak piloted a Mazda RX7 through the stages, and brought it through to 17th position — no mean feat when it is considered that a low slung sports type car is not necessarily the one best suited to this type of event.

Sadly the Mazda 323, one of Kuwait's cheapest rally cars, at around KD70, driven by Peer Horn, and co-driven by Marc



Josef Miskulnig and Klaus Schwingenshiog.



Younis Ali: approaching the hairpin on stage 7.

Horn, did not finish the event, withdrawing on the second day.

Mohammed Al Hussein, one of Kuwait's more experienced drivers, had looked set to be the first Kuwaiti entrant home until disaster struck his Toyota Celica. He rolled on stage 13, writing off the car, and had to be taken to hospital for a medical check.

A good number of spectators turned out for the event, and were treated to some splendid displays of driving skill by all competitors

— occasionally a little closer than anticipated!

However there were a number of unpleasant incidents which marred the good humour which, until the controversy, characterised the rally. On the Doha stage at night, some children were throwing stones and rocks at the cars. Tareq Al Alyan had the window of the Charade open, and was hit in the face by a stone. As he was wearing an open faced helmet he was injured.

Harry Carr, driving a Mitsubishi Pajero had a palm tree and a large stone through his windscreens, and other drivers complained of broken glass on their vehicles. Marshalls have complained that stones were thrown at them, on the same stage.

Meanwhile, Mohammed Bin Sulayem explained to the Arab Times why his team had protested. "They made an error. We had to protest. If I'd done the same thing they'd have torn me to pieces. We didn't hide it from Saeed; his navigator did that." Sulayem clearly regretted that his possible victory should come to him in such a way.

Provisional results (first two positions subject to protest): 1. Mohammed Bin Sulayem/Ronan Morgan - Toyota Tercel, Middle East, UAE/It, Toyota Celica, 01:54:37; 2. Saeed Al Hajri/Steve Bond (Rothmans Rally Team) - Qtr/GB, Audi Quattro, 01:55:21; 3. Salim Al Sowaidi/David Orrick, Qtr/GB, Toyota Celica, 02:19:25; 4. Josef Miskulnig/Klaus Schwingenshiog - International Optic, Kwt/Kwt, Nissan 240RS, 02:19:32; 5. Faez Chihab/Hassan Chihab, Kwt/Kwt, Mlt, Lancer, 02:30:04; 6. Ahmed Al Nasser/Bader Al Zaidi, Kwt/Kwt, Mlt, Lancer, 02:44:44; 7. Tareq Al Alyan/Khaloud Al Alyan, Kwt/Kwt, Dai, Charade, 02:48:26; 8. Jamal Marafi/Adnan Marafi, Kwt/Kwt, Nissan Patrol, 02:51:11; 9. Nori Yousif Ali/Waleed Al Zahr, Kwt/Kwt, Lada, 03:35:51; 10. Michael Allen/Martin Phillips, Kwt/Kwt, Volvo 240, 03:37:52; 11. Musaed Faraj/Mufed Mubarak, Kwt/Kwt, Mazda RX7, 03:39:09; 12. Harry Carr/Kenneth Scott, Kwt/Kwt, Dai, 04:07:30; 13. Khamess Al Khamess/Abdul Latif Raashed, Kwt/Kwt, Dai, 04:07:30; 14. Ahmed Al Mulla/Jasim Al Harbi, Kwt/Kwt, Holden, 04:16:18.

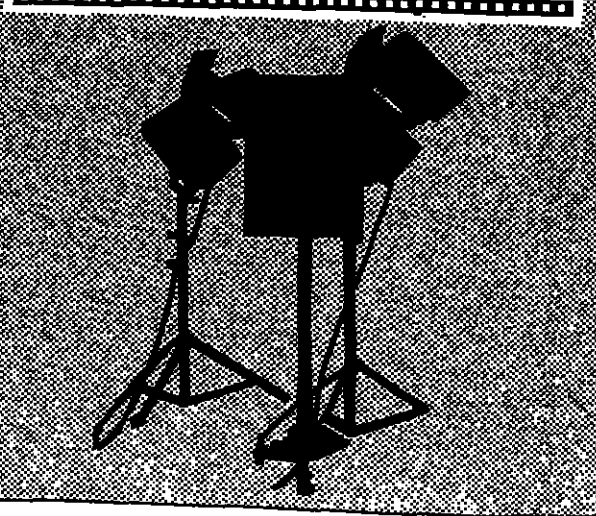
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